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Addendum

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1. Conference of European Churches

(Special consultative status granted in 1979)

The Conference of European Churches (CEC) has a total of 125 member churches of all major denominations (except the Roman Catholic Church) in all countries of Europe and 29 associated organizations, which together represent more than 200 million Christians. During the period under review, the climax of CEC's activities was the organization of the second European Ecumenical Assembly in Graz, Austria, which brought together 15,000 participants for one week under the theme "Reconciliation". In 1998 the integration process of two formerly independent ecumenical organizations, CEC and the European Ecumenical Commission for Church and Society (EECCS) was finalized. CEC thus became a recognized non-governmental organization (NGO), with consultative status not only with the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe, but also with the European Union. During the quadrennium, CEC continued its involvement with the United Nations, its specialized agencies and the international NGO community, in particular in the areas of human rights, the environment and refugees, as well as conflict prevention and mediation.

At the second European Ecumenical Assembly, held from 23 to 29 June 1997, Christians from all over Europe and beyond reflected on their contribution to civil society at large and the intergovernmental organizations in particular. Topics included dialogue between religion and culture, economic justice, reconciliation between peoples and nations, environmental issues and cooperation with other regions of the world. Several representatives of the specialized agencies of the United Nations were present as speakers or resource persons. The findings and commitments of the Assembly were published in an extended documentation, which can be made available upon request. Follow-up activities include the establishment of a Churches' Conciliation Commission as well as the establishment of a European Christian Environmental Network with representatives of almost all of CEC's member churches.

The integration of CEC and EECCS led to the establishment of a new and more representative Commission for Church and Society, which has permanent working groups on topics such as: the European integration process, security concepts, economy and ecology, bioethics, human rights. Through this commission CEC serves as a link between the organizations and its member churches, monitoring the organizations and communicating developments in either direction. Being accredited as a NGO at several intergovernmental organizations, the new commission sees its task as reflecting on the developments in the organizations and supporting a coherent approach between them.

With regard to the United Nations, CEC attended every meeting of the Commission on Human Rights in the period under review with a monitoring team. Interventions by CEC at the Commission dealt with topics such as freedom of religion and belief, death penalty, rights of refugees and the right to development. Most statements of CEC are prepared in close cooperation with the other ecumenical organizations based in the ecumenical centre in Geneva, for example the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Federation and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. CEC also took very seriously the challenge from the United

Nations Human Rights Centre to engage in human rights' education. Several human rights training courses were organized from 1995 to 1998, with a particular focus on Central and Eastern Europe. A training manual, in English and Russian, was widely published.

In several instances, CEC served as an operational partner on the ground for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In many countries, CEC member churches have trained refugee workers. This training offered, through CEC, coordination and support in crisis situations and trainees have been invited as resource persons to UNHCR meetings.

In 1995 to 1998, CEC continued to be actively engaged in preparing cooperation with United Nations agencies in attempts at conflict prevention and civil management of conflicts, with particular focus on the countries of the former Yugoslavia; a consultancy, established in January 1993, also continued to work during the period under review.

Following CEC's engagement at the 1992 United Nations Summit on Environment and Development, it continued to monitor the developments at the Commission for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The European Christian Environmental Network was founded in order to promote the local implementation of Agenda 21 and to address climate change, biodiversity, pollution and lifestyle issues from the perspective of the churches.

It should be noted that CEC has been closely related to the work of OSCE, a regional organization in accordance with Article 52 of the Charter of the United Nations. CEC, after having been involved in promoting religious freedom for several years, was recently asked to chair the OSCE Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion and Belief. In consequence, relations with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on intolerance have also increased.

CEC participates regularly in the activities of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO) and is a member of its special committees on human rights and disarmament.

2. CARE International

(General consultative status granted in 1991)

Aims and purpose of CARE International

CARE is one of the world's largest independent, international relief and development organizations. It is non-political and non-sectarian and operates in more than 70 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. CARE works in partnership with individuals and families in the poorest communities in the world. Drawing strength from its global diversity, resources and experience, CARE promotes innovative solutions and is an advocate for global responsibility. Guided by the aspirations of local communities, CARE facilitates lasting change by strengthening capacity for self-help; providing economic

opportunity; delivering relief in emergencies, influencing policy decisions at all levels; and addressing discrimination in all its forms.

With members in 10 countries, CARE International is a confederation of fund-raising and management offices in Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. CARE International's secretariat is in Brussels.

CARE receives funding from a variety of sources including individual and corporate donations, foundations, CARE international members, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Bank, and the European Union, as well as host and donor Governments.

CARE International is a member of the Standing Committee for Humanitarian Response and the Global Policy Forum's working group on the United Nations Security Council.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies, conferences and other United Nations meetings

CARE International has maintained multilateral liaison offices in Geneva and New York since 1995. Through these offices, CARE was represented at United Nations donor briefings and consultations. Additionally, the liaison offices are active on various United Nations/NGO working groups and hold regular consultation meetings with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNHCR, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), UNFPA and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

Apart from the coordination work of the multilateral liaison offices, CARE and its members have sent representatives to observe the Economic and Social Council and open Security Council meetings as well as to take part and contribute to other United Nations conferences, including

- Meeting of the UNHCR Executive Committee in Geneva 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998
- Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995
  Prepcoms and NGO Forum
- The World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, 1995
  Prepcoms and NGO Forum
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs monthly interaction meetings in New York, 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998
- World Food Summit, Rome, 1996
  Consulted for Committee on world food security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which acted as preparatory committee to the Summit

- Samovia formula briefing for the Security Council on the Great Lakes Crisis, New York, July 1996, presented oral and written statements at the invitation of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs

- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Conference on Hunger and Poverty, November 1996, Brussels

- Business/United Nations collaboration for development, second joint action programme at the International Labour Organization (ILO) Training Centre, Turin, Italy, 1998

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies

CARE offices around the world implement emergency relief and development projects in cooperation with and funded by a host of United Nations specialized agencies, including UNHCR, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF. The following is a sampling of such projects carried out between 1995-1998.

Emergency food assistance and agricultural training programmes in cooperation with WFP in Iraq, Laos, Afghanistan, Rwanda, the Sudan and Comoros.

Family planning assistance and education programmes with UNFPA in Haiti, India, the Sudan, West Bank/Gaza.

Programming in post-conflict rehabilitation, village banking and credit, water supply, AIDS/HIV prevention and care, agricultural NGO capacity-building, child social services with UNDP in Cambodia, Myanmar, Yemen, Rwanda, Bulgaria and Croatia.

Programmes in refugee camp management, logistics, food and fuel distribution, sanitation, mother/child and reproductive health, returnee assistance and resettlement with UNHCR in Myanmar, Yemen, Zaire, Rwanda, Bosnia, Yugoslavia, Tanzania and Burundi.

Water supply, winter survival, youth recreation and training, HIV/AIDS, material and food distribution, logistics programmes with UNICEF in Iraq, Jordan and Viet Nam.

Other United Nations specialized agencies working with CARE International on country programmes during the reporting period include the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Afghanistan, The American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA)/IFAD and FAO in the West Bank/Gaza, the Institute for Small-scale Fisheries Development (IDPPE)/IFAD in Mozambique, UNESCO in Somalia and WHO in Thailand.

CARE USA signed a memorandum of understanding on 16 July 1996 with WFP that allows for more comprehensive and creative joint programmes.

CARE International and the United Nations Mine Action Service joined together in 1998 to develop a landmine safety manual and training programme for United Nations and NGO personnel working in countries with mines around the world. The manual and programme are based on ones CARE International developed for its own staff. The programme has received support from the United Nations Foundation support.

Other relevant activities

Following a briefing for Security Council members sponsored by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, the senior Vice-President of programming for CARE USA, the Director of CARE International's country office in Rwanda and the Director of CARE's East Africa regional management office met with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on 12 February 1997 to discuss the Great Lakes Crisis in Africa.

In February 1997, CARE International's new Secretary-General, Guy Tousignant, met with the Under-Secretaries-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Peacekeeping Operations and the Deputy Directors of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and UNICEF.

In September 1998, the National Director of CARE Britain met with the Chief of the United Nations Mine Action Service to discuss further field collaboration following the successful collaboration on the landmine safety manual and training programme.

At the invitation of the Permanent Representative of Sweden, on 26 October 1998, CARE and three other international NGOs briefed members of the United Nations Security Council and urged them to actively seek a peaceful resolution of the war in the Sudan.

CARE International members called on their respective Governments to sign and ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and Their Destruction.

3. International Federation Terre des Hommes

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Summary

This report is divided in four parts according to the instructions for the completion of quadrennial reports.

Part 1 contains background information on the mission of the International Federation Terre des Hommes, its activities, membership and sources of funding.

Part 2 lists United Nations conferences and meetings which were attended by the Federation, and subjects of its written and oral statements.

Part 3 concerns cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, namely the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Part 4 concerns other relevant activities, namely submission of information to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, contribution to the United Nations study on the impact of armed conflict on children,

participation in the organization of the first World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and publications.

1. Introductory statement

The mission of the International Federation Terre des Hommes (IFTDH) is to work towards the attainment of social development and to implement the rights of the child, without racial, religious, political, cultural or gender-based discrimination. To this end, IFTDH supports development projects designed to improve the living conditions of disadvantaged children, their families and their communities. IFTDH works in close collaboration with the beneficiaries, who are the primary participants in their own development, in sectors such as health, nutrition, education, living standards and community development, and gives priority to ensuring special protection for the most disadvantaged children. The Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes the conceptual framework which guides IFTDH activities.

In their own countries and regions, the member organizations of the Federation raise funds to achieve their objectives. They bring to public attention, including children and young people, the causes of underdevelopment and the rights of the child. This is achieved mainly through information campaigns. They try to mobilize political will and advocate for appropriate governmental policies.

At an international level, the Federation cooperates with relevant bodies of the United Nations system to promote and implement the rights of the child and to advocate for the attainment of social development.

The Federation is composed of nine member organizations based in the following countries, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Syria, and works in more than 80 countries all over the world. It is funded by private donors, fund-raising events, corporate donors, governmental subsidies and multilateral donors.

2. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

From 1995 to 1998, IFTDH participated in the following United Nations meetings:

Economic and Social Council, substantive session in Geneva, in 1995 and 1997; Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, 1995-1998.

In 1996 the Federation submitted a written statement (E/CN.4/1996/NGO/73) on indigenous people.

From 1995 to 1998 oral statements were submitted on the following issues: child rights, sexual exploitation of children, street children, economic, social and cultural rights, extreme poverty and landmines.

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Geneva, 1995-1998.

In 1995 IFTDH submitted a written statement (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/NGO/3) on landmines.

In 1996 (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/NGO/32) on implementing the 20/20 Initiative.

In 1995 an oral statement was submitted on unemployment in Latin America.

Inter-sessional Open-Ended Working Group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts, Geneva, 1995-1998.

Several oral or written statements on child soldiers were submitted to the Working Group.

The Federation has regularly attended sessions of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Geneva. The Federation submitted relevant information to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. In 1997 an oral statement on poverty was submitted to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

In 1995, the Federation attended the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen. The Federation also attended sessions of the Commission on Social Development in New York in 1997 and 1998. In 1998, an oral statement on economic, social and cultural rights was submitted. The German section of the IFTDH is very involved in the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development.

In 1998, IFTDH attended the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court in Rome.

3. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies

IFTDH participated in the preparation of the new ILO Convention concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, and attended the 1997-1998 sessions of the International Labour Conference. On this occasion, the Swiss section of the Federation coordinated the arrival of the Global March against Child Labour in Geneva in June 1998.

IFTDH cooperates actively with UNICEF mostly through its membership in the non-governmental organizations Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child. At field level, collaboration is also developed for a few projects. IFTDH cooperates with the European Office of UNDP regarding the "Team to End Poverty Campaign". IFTDH cooperates with UNHCR for the elaboration of the module on exploitation for the "Action for the Rights of the Child" project.

4. Other relevant activities

(a) IFTDH received several requests for information from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in implementation of United Nations resolutions, and replied to many on various subjects, including human rights education, traditional practices affecting the health of women and children, the sale

of children, minimum humanitarian standards, the involvement of children in armed conflicts, and the right to development. These replies are referred to in United Nations documents (see E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/6 and E/CN.4/1996/80/Add.1).

(b) The Federation cooperates with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and submits relevant information when appropriate.

(c) IFTDH was mandated in 1995-1996 by the United Nations study on the impact of armed conflict on children to prepare, as a background document, research on "Sexual Violence, Abuse and Exploitation of Children affected by Armed Conflict".

(d) On behalf of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Federation participated in the organization of the first World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in 1996 in Stockholm. The other organizers of the Congress were the Government of Sweden, UNICEF and the Campaign "End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism".

IFTDH disseminates information to its members about United Nations events, programmes and publications through an internal newsletter. Member organizations of the Federation also publish their own documentation and material to inform the public, for example, about the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

4. International Kolping Society

(Special consultative status granted in 1991)

Introduction

Within the last four years the International Kolping Society closed down some of its activities in Western Europe while starting new activities in East Europe, Africa and Latin America. The number of countries has not changed since our last report, but the number of associations and individual members has increased markedly.

As we did not participate in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings and did not cooperate with United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, we want to inform you of our other relevant activities.

Regarding the contribution to the work of the United Nations, the International Kolping Society concentrated its work on the following issues:

1. Cooperation with other international non-governmental organizations with consultative status

2. Family

3. Exploitative child labour

4. Human rights

1. Cooperation with other international non-governmental organizations in consultative status

During the years from 1995 to 1998, the International Kolping Society continued its work in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO), in the NGO Committee on the Family, in the NGO Committee on Development and in the Association of Non-Governmental Organizations of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. Together with other NGOs, the International Kolping Society has contributed to the development of the following declarations.

- Statement to the international non-governmental organizations on the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995.
- Statement to the fiftieth session of the United Nations General Assembly, provisional agenda item 107, entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", September 1995.
- Statement to the special session of the Commission for Social Development, 21-30 May 1996, under "Strategies and actions for eradication of poverty".
- Statement to the Commission for Social Development, thirty-sixth session, New York, 10-19 February 1998, under the priority theme: "Promoting social integration and participation, including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and persons (E/CN.5/1998/NGO/9)".

2. Family

The International Kolping Society is an active organization in the NGO Committee on the Family in Vienna. Our representative in Vienna was elected secretary of the Committee.

In addition to active cooperation in the Board of this Committee, the International Kolping Society also participated in the International Family Week, on 23 and 24 November 1998 at the Vienna International Centre, organized by the NGO Committee on the Family. Two representatives of our organization were speakers in the working group on training and housing schemes for disabled young persons and basic education. The International Board of Directors of the International Kolping Society decided upon a declaration on the International Day of the Family in 1996.

3. Exploitative child labour

The International Kolping Society paid strict attention to the debate within ILO in regard to ILO resolution 182 and ILO recommendation 190 on overcoming the worst forms of child labour. As a consequence of this debate, the International Board of Directors of the International Kolping Society dealt with this problem during its meeting being held from 17 to 22 May 1998. Mrs. Elisabeth Goodson from the ILO office in Hungary was one of the speakers during the meeting. As a result of the discussions, the International Board of Directors decided upon a declaration to overcome exploitative child labour and an action plan. The

declaration of the International Board of Directors was printed in different newspapers and brochures of the national Kolping Societies (total edition approx. 320,000), and the action plan was implemented in different countries.

As a support of the discussions in Geneva, many members of the Kolping Youth participated in the Global March on its way through Germany.

4. Human rights

The fiftieth anniversary of the declaration of human rights received special attention, and the International Board of Directors decided upon a declaration regarding this issue. In the declaration the International Kolping Society emphasized the universality of human rights and its obligation to work for human rights and to support the debate regarding a formulation of a charter of human responsibilities.

Finally we want to mention that two members of the Kolping Society participated in the youth forum of the United Nations system held from 25 to 29 November 1996 in Vienna.

5. International Social Security Association

(General consultative status granted in 1979)

The International Social Security Association (ISSA) is a non-profit organization which essentially brings together institutions and administrative bodies dealing with one or more aspects of social security in different countries of the world, namely all forms of compulsory social protection which by virtue of legislation or national practice, are an integral part of the social security system of these countries. Presently the Association has 364 member organizations in 143 countries. The Association fully shares the ideals of justice and social progress laid down in the Charter of the United Nations.

Aims

Cooperate, at the international level, in the promotion and development of social security throughout the world, primarily through its technical and administrative improvement, in order to advance the social and economic conditions of the population on the basis of social justice. This overall objective defines three fundamental and complementary missions: (a) focal point for different thinking about social protection throughout the world and international forum where administrators of programmes of different countries can compare their experiences, exchange information and discuss respective problems; (b) worldwide centre for the collection and dissemination of information concerning social security developments, innovative experiences, the principal debates having an impact on its evolution and the result of research carried out in this field throughout the world; (c) a tool for the use of member organizations to enhance their efforts aimed at improving social protection, to facilitate their cooperation and mutual assistance and to improve their administrative capacity.

Means of action

The principal means of action of the ISSA are the following: (a) organization of international and regional meetings and conferences; (b) collection and dissemination of information on social security arrangements throughout the world, particularly through international databases (Social Security Worldwide) and a publications programme; (c) promotion of research and surveys on social security issues and distribution of their results; (d) organization of training programmes for the personnel of social security organizations in various regions of the world and encouragement of technical assistance among member organizations; (e) cooperation with other international or regional organizations exercising an activity related to social security. For more detailed information, see the ISSA web site, www.issa.int.

Special contribution of the International Social Security Association to the International Year of Older Persons

The International Social Security Review, which the Association publishes quarterly in four languages (English, French, Spanish and German), is the main medium used by the Association in order to disseminate information about topical issues in the social field to all of its member organizations and to the wider public concerned with progress in social protection. A special issue of the *International Social Security Review* (Vol. 52, No. 3/99) seeks to play a full part in the ongoing debate on the future of social protection arrangements for older people around the world and presents discussions on the following issues: motivation, purpose and processes in pension reform; fundamental decisions for the reform of pensions systems; pension provision for specific risk groups: the Japanese case; equity and redistribution between generations: a challenge for the future of pensions and all social protection schemes; work, family, State and market: income packaging for older households; and adequacy and poverty among retired people.

During the reporting period, the publication of the Review and several meetings and conferences of the Association have furthermore given ample space to the issue of older persons. The concern for the problems of older persons has, inter alia, been demonstrated during the last General Assembly of the Association (October 1998), in particular in its triennial report, Developments and trends in social security 1996-1998, and more specifically in two chapters relating (a) to pension system reforms in responses to the growth in retired populations and (b) to a comparison of informal care policies. The International Year received further attention during the conference on Demographic trends and globalization: Challenges for social security which was held in Bratislava on 14 and 15 October 1999, where many of the recurrent themes of the end of the decade were discussed in the light of social developments, including older women's issues, policies to prolong "active ageing", solutions for the elderly in developing societies and long-term care issues.

Special note is made of the fact that the Association participated and made a technical contribution to the Expert Group Meeting on Rural Ageing, held in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, United States of America, in May 1999. This meeting was held under the auspices of the United Nations Programme on Ageing in anticipation of a major United Nations-sponsored international conference on the

rural elderly, which will be held in West Virginia in 2000. The contribution of the Association to the preparatory meeting held in Shepherdstown focused on trends in income security protection for the elderly, with a special emphasis on older persons working in the rural and informal sectors of the economy.

Further to the special events held during the International Year of Older Persons, the Secretary-General of the Association served as a keynote speaker, along with the United States Secretary of Human Development Services, Donna Shelala and Dr. H. Suzuki, Executive Director of the World Health Organization (WHO), at the official United States Government launching of the International Year, held in June 1999 in Washington, D.C. Again, the Association was asked to present a worldwide overview of developments and trends in social security protection of the elderly.

Special contribution of the International Social Security Association to social development throughout the world

Reforming social security systems has become a crucial issue in the world today. The Association's interest in this reform materialized in its Stockholm initiative, "The social security reform debate: in search of a new consensus", launched in 1996 with the objective of promoting a dialogue on the most important social protection issues. The initiative centred on pensions and, in particular, on the critical economic issues underlying the current worldwide debate about national pensions systems. A series of nine studies, examining topics such as the impact of pensions on the economy, the fiscal dynamics of different pensions approaches and the challenges involved in providing adequate retirement incomes have been published by Lawrence Thompson in a book *Older and Wiser: The economics of public pensions*, by the Urban Institute Press, Washington, D.C. The Association published a summary of these studies, *The Social Security Reform Debate: In search of a new consensus — A Summary*. In the coming years, the discussion will be enlarged to include other aspects of social security. The Association's new initiative, "Strengthening security in social security", will be officially launched in December 1999.

Particular note should be made of the fact that the ISSA has been asked to make a contribution to the Special Session of the General Assembly (26-30 June 2000), which will consider the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development. In accordance with decision 1 of the Preparatory Committee (contained in document A/AC.253/L.7/Rev.1, para. 10), the Association is asked, along with the International Labour Organization (ILO), to prepare a report for the Preparatory Committee at its second substantive session containing recommendations for further action in the field of social protection relevant to commitment 2, Poverty eradication.

In addition to this contribution to be submitted along with ILO, the Association will prepare a separate statement to be submitted to the second substantive session relating to the Association on governance of institutions, public and private, which ensure social protection measures.

Cooperation with specialized agencies

The International Social Security Association and the ILO maintain privileged relationships, which are an expression of the concern objectives of the two organizations and the way in which their activities in the field of social security and occupational safety and health are complementary. Over the period under review, the Association has continued to be represented regularly at ILO annual conferences and meetings dealing with social security, whilst numerous international and regional meetings of the Association have benefited from the effective participation of representatives of the International Labour Office. Special emphasis was put on the cooperation in training activities and the production of training materials. Inter-agency cooperation in the field of training has also been strengthened with organizations such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Central American Council of Social Security Organizations (COCISS). Cooperation between the Association and WHO, which reflects their common interests, was continued during the 1996-1999 period, in particular regarding various health issues and occupational safety and health.

6. MADRE

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Introduction

During the period under consideration for this report (1995-1998), MADRE, a non-governmental organization (NGO) with consultative status in the Economic and Social Council, has participated in a series of activities that fall within the framework of the United Nations and in support of its work. These activities include direct participation in United Nations conferences; facilitation for MADRE's international partner organizations and their representatives to participate in United Nations conferences and other United Nations activities; regular attendance at the Commission on the Status of Women; regular participation in NGO forums related to United Nations activities; participation in NGO coalitions and committees related to work of United Nations agencies (the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)); attendance to briefings by governments and NGOs on activities related to the United Nations; and participation with other NGOs in the work of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. MADRE disseminates its United Nations-related activities through its biannual newsletter "*MADRE Speaks*", a web site and through other public education materials, as well as through its participation in conferences, speaking engagements and interviews and articles in electronic and print media.

MADRE's work in support of United Nations programmes has deepened our constituency's understanding of problems faced by women and children throughout the world. Consequently, the organization's ability to engage its membership in programmes that educate the public and invite community contributions towards the goals of the United Nations has been strengthened.

1. Aims and purposes of the organization. Increase in geographical membership. Substantial changes in sources of funding.

MADRE is an international women's human rights organization that works in partnership with community-based women's organizations in developing countries throughout the world. MADRE works to meet the survival needs of women and families in conflict zones by providing emergency shipments of food, medicines, medical supplies and other forms of material aid. Especially important is MADRE's support of community development initiatives that enable women to play leadership roles. MADRE campaigns in international forums to make human rights legislation relevant and accountable to the people it is meant to protect. The organization also does public education in the United States to raise awareness of the situation of women in conflict zones.

During the period under consideration in this report, MADRE has increased its membership, both in terms of numbers as well as geographical representation (see attachment).

MADRE's board of directors, based in the United States of America, is multiracial and cross-class:

Vivian Stromberg (United States)	Liliana Cortés (Puerto Rico)
Anne Hess (United States)	Hilda Díaz (Cuba)
Zala Chandler (United States)	Marie Saint-Cyr (Haiti)
Linda Flores (Puerto Rico)	Rochelle Korman (United States)
Andaye de la Cruz (Puerto Rico)	Margaret Ratner (United States)

In addition, MADRE has an international advisory board, with the following members: Dr. Myrna Cunningham (Nicaragua, for indigenous affairs), Dr. Fathieh Saudi (Jordan), Lepa Mladjenovich (Yugoslavia), Marie-Frantz Joachim (Haiti), Olga Rivas (Guatemala) and Mónica Alemán (Nicaragua).

Also during this period, MADRE has expanded its work in terms of the geographical areas in which it is involved. MADRE currently works in partnership with local organizations in the following areas: **Nicaragua, Guatemala, Cuba, Mexico, Haiti, Rwanda, the Balkans and Palestine**.

During the period considered for this report, there have been no substantial changes in the nature of the organization's sources of funding. MADRE continues to be funded by membership dues, donations, grants from private and religious foundations, legacies and subsidies in its favour. The organization does not receive government funding.

Among the foundations that have provided MADRE with financial support over the period of time considered in this report are the following:

Agape Foundation	Goldman Fund
Blossom Fund	Haymarket Fund
Boehm Foundation	Jewish Communal Fund
Bydale Foundation	Kelley Foundation
Church Women United	Stewart Mott Foundation
Dominican Sisters	MacArthur Foundation
Franciscan Charities	Ms. Foundation
Franciscan Sisters of Mary	New Land Foundation

Fund for Four Directions	Peace Development Fund
Fund for Non-Violence	Presbyterian Church (USA)
Funding Exchange	The Sister Fund
Gaea Foundation	Turner Foundation
Gerbode Fund	United Methodist Church/Global Ministries

2. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

From 6 to 12 March 1995, a MADRE representative attended the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen.

In September 1995, MADRE participated in the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. At the official government conference, MADRE participated together with other NGOs in the drafting of language for legislation and lobbying efforts. In particular, MADRE concentrated on the areas of the girl child, cultural rights, health, sexual rights, education and economic rights. At the forum of NGOs in Huairou, MADRE organized and facilitated workshops and presentations on health and economic issues. MADRE sponsored the participation of 35 women from community-based organizations from the United States and the Dominican Republic, as well as representatives from our partner organizations in Nicaragua, Haiti and Guatemala.

In June 1998, as sponsor of the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice, MADRE participated in the Rome Conference for the establishment of the International Criminal Court. MADRE accredited representatives from women's organizations throughout the world. The work of the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice was pivotal in the discussions and negotiations to include a gender perspective into all aspects of the Court's jurisdiction, structure and operations. The Women's Caucus was also active in the NGO coalition during the Rome Conference.

MADRE regularly participates in the yearly meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women. The organization attends briefings by governments, NGOs with consultative status in the Economic and Social Council, and other specialized agencies regarding the agenda items. MADRE also facilitates the participation of representatives of our partner organizations in the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women.

3. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In 1997, MADRE formed part of a consortium of international women's organizations that prepared and submitted an *amicus curiae* brief to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, for the tribunal's inclusion of charges of sexual violation in the genocide cases. MADRE worked with Rwandan women's organizations in assisting them to prepare affidavits of women survivors of sexual violence linked to genocide, to present to the tribunal. A MADRE representative also served as an observer of the tribunal.

MADRE representatives were also part of the working group on armed conflict (a coalition of concerned non-governmental organizations that operates under the

auspices of the NGO Committee on UNICEF), and the campaign to gain Governments' support of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child that would raise the age of recruitment into the armed forces.

MADRE representatives attended meetings of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, particularly in relation to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The organization also regularly attends briefings by UNIFEM, in particular those concerning violence against women.

4. Other relevant activities. Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

Since MADRE's participation in the Fourth World Conference on Women, MADRE has been actively working towards the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. MADRE's reproductive health programme, "Women's Health/Women's Right: A Reproductive Health Initiative in Four Communities in Latin America and the Caribbean" is conceptualized and carried out in the spirit of the conclusions and programmes of action established at three major United Nations conferences (the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna 1993; the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo 1994; and the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995). MADRE considers reproductive and sexual health to be a basic human right and necessary for the full and equal participation of women in society. Rather than focusing single-mindedly on population and family planning, MADRE's reproductive health initiative links reproductive and sexual health to overall social and material improvements in women's lives.

MADRE's programme in Guatemala, Training for Human Rights Enforcement — Advocacy, Documentation and Support (THREADS), trains women workers in the maquiladora factories in the concepts and uses of international instruments of labour and human rights legislation (including the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, the Beijing Platform for Action) so they can address workplace abuses.

In Palestine, MADRE is supporting groups that address home and homelessness, and housing as a human right. It also provides resources and technical assistance to a partner organization that promotes the equal participation of girls and boys in education and cultural development.

In Rwanda, MADRE has provided material support and technical assistance to women's organizations addressing rape as a weapon of war. MADRE's strategies there have focused both on the legal arena (to raise the issue of sexual violence in the context of genocide) as well as direct humanitarian and development aid to community-based women's projects.

In the former Yugoslavia, MADRE has provided humanitarian aid to women's groups working with refugees, and to multi-ethnic, non-nationalist women's peace groups.

5. Dissemination of United Nations information

See attached publications corresponding to the period under consideration in the present report.

The dissemination of MADRE's United Nations-related activities is also done through the organization's participation conference, speaking engagements on college campuses and other educational institutions, as well as electronic and print media, radio and television.

7. Medical Women's International Association

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

Aims and purposes

The Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) is a non-political, non-secretarian, non-profit association representing women doctors from all five continents. The aims of MWIA are:

(a) To encourage communication between women doctors worldwide;

(b) To encourage the entry of women into the medical and allied services;

(c) To assist medical women with postgraduate studies;

(d) To overcome discrimination between male and female physicians;

(e) To promote access to health for all throughout the world with particular interest in women, health and development.

During the quadrennial period under review (1995-1998) 7 new national associations joined MWIA, namely Zambia and Benin in 1995, and Argentina, Hungary, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama in 1998. The Association's membership comprises 43 national associations and 52 individual members in 24 countries. The total number of members in 67 countries is approximately 15,000 (1998).

Participation in activities, meetings and conferences within the United Nations system 1995-1998

MWIA participated regularly in conferences and meetings of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies. Of special interest to MWIA were the Fourth World Conference on Women, meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights, the WHO General Assemblies and regional meetings and the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS). The main meetings attended were:

The Economic and Social Council

Fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 1996-1997

Major meetings of the United Nations

United Nations World Summit for Social Development, March 1995, Copenhagen

Preparatory conferences for the Fourth World Conference on Women, July 1995, Burkina Faso and Ethiopia

Fourth World Conference on Women, 4-15 September 1995, Beijing

MWIA has permanent representatives in New York, and Geneva who regularly attend meetings at United Nations Headquarters (e.g. UNICEF)

United Nations Subcommittee on the Status of Women

United Nations Subcommittee on the Status of Women, June 1995, Geneva

Working Group on the Girl Child and Working Group on Nutrition, May 1996, Geneva, Switzerland

Working Group on Nutrition and Working Group on Health, January 1997, Geneva, Switzerland

Forty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 2-13 March 1998, New York

NGO Committee on the Status of Women, 22 June 1998, Geneva

UNESCO

Fourth session of the International Committee on Bioethics, 3 and 4 October 1996, Paris

World Health Organization

During the period from 1995 to 1998, MWIA was represented at 20 meetings of WHO:

General Assemblies (3); Executive Board (2); Regional meetings in Africa (3); South-East Asia (4); Europe (4); Western Pacific (2) and Americas (2). MWIA was also represented at the following international meetings:

First Global Forum on Health Research, 26 and 27 June 1997, Geneva

WHO, Fourth International Conference on Health Promotion, 21-25 July 1997, Jakarta

Presentations and statements

MWIA presented 10 written statements/documents and resolutions at various important meetings. The meeting, venue and short reference to the subjects of the statements/documents are listed as follows:

1. Statement presented at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, March 1995, "Women's Health";

2. Statement presented at the forty-fifth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, Jerusalem, Israel, September 1995, "Reproductive health — violence against women as a major health issue";

3. Statement presented at the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995, "Nutrition — quality of health care — violence as a health issue";

4. Statement presented to the WHO forty-ninth General Assembly, Geneva, May 1996, "Reproductive Health";

5. Statement presented at the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, Copenhagen, September 1996, "Sexual education — sexually transmitted diseases";

6. Intervention at the WHO ninety-ninth Executive Board, Geneva, January 1997, "Violence against women";

7. Presentation by the President of MWIA at the fourth International Conference on Health Promotion, Jakarta, Indonesia, July 1997, "Health Promotion: a challenge for NGOs in Africa";

8. Updated statement presented at the WHO General Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland, 1997, "Female Genital Mutilation";

9. Statement presented at the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, Istanbul, Turkey, September 1997, "Tobacco";

10. Eighteen resolutions and two joint position statements were presented to and passed by the General Assembly at the twenty-fourth International Congress of the Medical Women's International Association, October 1998, Sao Paulo, Brazil:

    The resolutions and position statements on "Afghanistan" and the "Plight of Widows in many countries in Africa and Asia", which were passed at the MWIA Congress 1998, have been widely disseminated to various international organizations including the United Nations, WHO, the World Medical Association and the appropriate departments of the United States Congress.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies (1995-1998)

At the NGO Forum in Beijing, September 1995, MWIA held a workshop entitled "Women's Health in a Changing Society". The main topics of discussion were nutrition and women's health, violence as a health issue and access to high quality medicine. These topics have since been the main subjects of following statements given at international meetings by representatives of MWIA. Many affiliated national associations have activities and projects at local, national and international level. Some examples of cooperation with the United Nations and/or subsidiary bodies are:

UNICEF/WHO

The Egyptian Medical Women's Association organized projects in cooperation with UNICEF/WHO on AIDS (UNICEF 1994-1997), Breastfeeding-friendly private hospitals (UNICEF 1997), Training in reproductive health (UNICEF/WHO 1996-1998).

UNICEF

A theme of violence on minors was developed in conjunction with UNICEF through a series of seminars and meetings organized by the Italian Medical Women's Association.

UNICEF

Sponsors members of MWIA affiliated African national associations to attend international medical women's congresses (e.g. Medical Women's Association of Zambia).

UNDPA

A manual for the dissemination of information regarding "The beneficial and harmful impacts of traditional practices affecting the reproductive health of the woman in Cameroon" was produced by the Cameroon Medical Women's Association in 1995. The UNDPA financed the production and dissemination of the information. The International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC) financed the study.

WHO

1. Funding by WHO of a literature review of maternal mortality in Zambia.
2. Sponsored visits to rural women's projects in Zambia.
3. WHO helps the German medical women's associations to support a therapy centre (Medica Zenica) in Bosnia-Herzegovina for violated and abused women, especially refugees of ethnic origin (1995-ongoing).

Publications

A triennial congress report is published within 12 months after each MWIA International Congress. This report contains detailed information on activities of the National Associations, International and United Nations representation, resolutions passed at the Congress etc. Information from United Nations/WHO press releases and from United Nations publications, and reports from MWIA participants at United Nations/WHO and other international meetings are published in the MWIA Update. The MWIA Update is published three times a year and is widely distributed to all national associations and members in the 67 countries where MWIA is represented. For many of the members, especially the Individual Members, this is the only available source of United Nations information.

Subscriptions

MWIA subscribes annually to the following associations: Non-Governmental Organization Committee on the Status of Women, Special Committee of International Non-Governmental Organizations on Human Rights, European Women's Lobby, Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council, Non-Governmental Organization Committee on UNICEF, Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS).

8. Mediterranean Women's Studies Centre

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

The Mediterranean Women's Studies Centre (KEGME), was founded in October 1982. Based in Athens, KEGME is a non-governmental organization (NGO) in consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council; a board Member of the European Network of Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Women's Studies (ENWS), under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); National Contact for the European Network on Conflict Prevention and Reconciliation.

The Centre is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors and Ketty Lazaris is the elected President. A scientific Committee is composed by representatives of women's NGOs from various Mediterranean countries. A wide Network of women scientists and researchers closely cooperate in the activities of the Centre.

Aims:

(a) To study, analyse and improve the position of women in the family and in economic, social and public life;

(b) To increase awareness and simulate action that will promote equality between women and men in all areas of life;

(c) To sensitive women about ecological problems and mobilize them to protect the environment;

(d) To assist women in preserving their cultural heritage and their women's values;

(e) To develop methods and take initiatives in conflict resolution and in the promotion of peace in the Mediterranean;

(f) To support national, regional and international campaigns and programmers about issues of major concern such as AIDS, drugs, alcoholism, criminality, etc.

To achieve its objectives, KEGME has developed various areas of responsibilities e.g., feminist and action-oriented research, gender studies programme, training projects for the promotion of human rights, with emphasis on

women's rights, activities relating to the protection of the environment, programme of feminist alternatives for the promotion of sustainable peace, organization of seminars, symposia, workshops and conferences on a wide number of issues related to women as well as establishing a Documentation and Information Unit.

KEGME has cooperated with various national and international bodies e.g. with UNESCO, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and the European Union, for the implementation of various programmes. KEGME is in contact with the United Nations Department of Public Information, Non-governmental Organization Section.

KEGME has also been funded by various private enterprises, Greek banks and Greek national institutions.

1995-1999

The Mediterranean Women's Studies Centre has obtained special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1987.

During the period from 1995 to 1999, KEGME has developed various activities which are in line with the United Nations objectives. Specifically:

1995 KEGME has put all its efforts preparing for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

- Since 1994 KEGME has disseminated information on the United Nations women's NGOs in order to get ready for Beijing. By common accord and the recommendation of the General Secretariat for Equality in Greece, KEGME undertook to coordinate the work of the NGOs for their participation in the Beijing forum.
- KEGME participated in the NGO consultations for the preparation of the Beijing Conference in New York, on 13 and 14 March 1995.
- KEGME co-organized the second Forum of Mediterranean Women, a preparatory meeting for Beijing, in Tunis from 2 to 4 June 1995, under the auspices of UNESCO.
- KEGME has participated with a seven-member delegation in the Beijing Forum and organized three workshops: (a) "Mediterranean women's rights in a multicultural context", (b) "The women's movement towards 2000: its visions and perspectives", (c) "Women and development: an alternative model".
- KEGME's President was included in the national delegation as liaison between NGOs and the official delegation.
- KEGME participated in the NGO forum and the United Nations World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in March 1995.

Returning from Beijing, KEGME representatives who participated in the Forum, wrote their impressions from Beijing in the Greek press while its President appeared in various television panels.

- Another important activity, relating to the United Nations International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, was the organization by KEGME of a European symposium on "Gender Approaches to Emergency Situations:

Women's Realities" held from 4-7 May 1995. The symposium was organized in cooperation with UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the Greek Ministry for Environment.

- In relation to the environment KEGME has organized four two-day workshops with the theme: "We live together: environment and development, north-south cooperation" and sensitization projects targeting women and children.

1996

- As a follow-up to the Beijing Conference, KEGME organized throughout the year four district workshops popularizing the two Beijing documents: the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action.
- KEGME's Project Manager participated as observer at the sessions of the Economic and Social Council in New York.
- KEGME's Project Manager participated as an observer in the Habitat Conference in Istanbul.
- As a follow-up of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and promoting the Habitat Agenda, KEGME organized a Conference on: "Urbanization, safety and quality of life: women's proposals", 8-9 November 1996.
- Concerning the promotion of Human Rights, KEGME conducted a one-week seminar, "Establishing and Monitoring Women's Rights in Russia", Moscow, 17-21 April 1996. The seminar was sponsored by the United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA.
- On the occasion of the International Television Day, KEGME organized a panel on "Women in the Mass Media", 25 November 1996.

1997

- KEGME has attended the forty-first session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, 10-21 March 1997.
- KEGME's President and its Treasurer attended the sixth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna, and made a recommendation concerning violence against women.
- KEGME's Project Manager represented the Centre at the five-year follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in New York.
- KEGME's President and its Secretary General participated in the fiftieth annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference "Building Partnerships", New York, 10-12 September 1997.
- KEGME participated in the twentieth General Assembly of the Conference of NGOs under the theme "Defining the Future" in Geneva, 3-5 November 1997.
- KEGME participated at the International Conference on "Migration and Human Rights in the Mediterranean", Malta, 16-18 May 1997.

- June 1997: At the suggestion of UNESCO, KEGME hosted Sacha Todorova, Director of the Bulgarian Women's Information Centre, newly established by UNESCO in Sofia. During her 10-day stay in Athens she followed the works of KEGME and learned management, programming and initiation of activities for the new Centre.

1998

- KEGME participated at both sessions of the Economic and Social Council in New York.
- KEGME's Project Manager participated in the World Conference on: "Women and Development" in Addis Ababa on the occasion of the United Nations celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Economic Commission for Africa.
- KEGME participated, by special invitation, in the ceremony of the 1998 annual UNFPA award for the "Most successful practices for community health" in Uganda. The award was given to the elders' association in the district of Sabini for their efforts to eliminate the practices of female genital mutilation.
- On 27 and 28 February 1998, KEGME launched a Development Project in Uganda for rural women. The Project on: "Natural Resources Management by Women in Uganda", targeting six local districts, will be carried out over a period of two years. The project is co-sponsored by the European Union and UNFPA, as training Seminars on Women's Reproductive Rights and Health Issues, including AIDS prevention, are programmed.
- From 17 to 19 May 1998, KEGME participated in Seminar on "Human Rights in Development Education", Fano, Italy.
- From 4 to 8 October 1998, KEGME presented its Development Project for rural women in Uganda, in the Seminar on: "Environmental Conservation and Education" organized by the Pedagogical Academy of Linz, Austria.
- On 14 December 1998, KEGME organized a one-day workshop on "Women's Dialogue for the Promotion of Peace, Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe". The Workshop focused on the rights of immigrant and refugee women. The present report was drawn up by KEGME's President, Ketty Lazaris and Scientific Director Eleni Stamiris.

9. Program for Appropriate Technology in Health

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

The Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH) is an international non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to improving health, especially the health of women and children. PATH identifies, develops and applies appropriate and innovative solutions to public health problems, particularly in low-resource settings. To meet the health needs of developing countries, PATH invents or adapts technologies and provides technical assistance to improve health products and programmes. In keeping with its mission, PATH is committed to three goals:

improving women's health, improving children's health and preventing communicable diseases. PATH's headquarters and a programme office are located in Seattle, Washington (United States of America). Additional offices are located in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, the Philippines, Thailand, Ukraine, Viet Nam and Washington, D.C.

Path obtained Category II consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in August of 1995. Outlined below is a significant representation of 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 consultative and substantive activities undertaken in cooperation with United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies and officials of those agencies.

The World Health Organization

- PATH has been designated as a WHO collaborating centre in three technical areas: research on human reproduction; AIDS; and Hepatitis B Vaccination; thereby providing technical assistance in those areas to United Nations bodies.
- PATH has produced technical reports and resources that are widely distributed in collaboration with WHO. Examples include documents on a range of family planning topics, including reviews of contraceptive method mix and the health benefits of family planning, a review of female genital mutilation eradication programmes in Africa, which provides comprehensive baseline information, and a manual, entitled *Procurement of Vaccines for Public Sector Programmes*, which incorporates vaccine procurement policies of the United States Food and Drug Administration, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- With support from the WHO/Reproductive Health Programme, PATH conducted a quality assurance survey of contraceptives in 22 countries, for which input was gathered from local family planning agencies, regulatory officials, and relevant donor agencies. Study findings and recommendations provide a resource for the increasing number of countries moving towards local manufacturing of contraceptives, and PATH works with WHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and other agencies to assist countries in the transition from donated contraceptive commodities to self-sufficiency.
- PATH, with WHO and other agencies, provided technical assistance to the Ukrainian Government in its effort to immunize all adults against diphtheria.
- In collaboration with the WHO/Epidemiology Programme and support from other agencies, PATH has designed and evaluated several non-reusable syringes and other injection devices meant to ensure safe injections.
- WHO has provided partial funding for PATH's work in the "alternative rites" approach to the eradication of female genital mutilation.
- PATH serves as secretariat and manages the Bill and Melinda Gates Children's Vaccine Program together with global partners to implement programme activities: partners include WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank.

The United Nations Children's Fund

- PATH presented a public talk on "State of the World's Children" by the Executive Director of UNICEF on 20 May 1998, in Seattle; about 150 Seattle residents attended.
- UNICEF is distributing SoloShot™, a single-use, disposable injection device developed by PATH, at a rate of more than 5 million units each month, helping to prevent transmission of disease through unsafe reuse of syringes.
- HEATmarker™ vial indicator, developed by PATH and a private-sector partner, is a chemically treated label that changes colour when exposed to heat whereby health workers can tell if the vaccine is safe to use. UNICEF now requires such labels, known generically as vaccine vial monitors, on all oral polio vaccine it distributes worldwide. PATH assists WHO with vaccine vial monitors training materials, studies and laboratory validation.
- PATH is participating in the UNICEF/Becton Dickinson and Company Partnership for Child Health, a five-year global immunization campaign to eliminate neonatal tetanus. Launched in 1998, the campaign uses two safe-injection devices developed by PATH and licensed to Becton Dickinson — UniJect™ and SoloShot™ — to administer neonatal tetanus immunizations to expectant mothers. PATH also helped to identify a tetanus toxoid vaccine supplier and will assist in implementing immunization campaigns in targeted countries.

The United Nations Population Fund

- PATH hosted a briefing and reception featuring the Executive Director of UNFPA, on 21 April 1998, at its Seattle headquarters. About 50 Seattle area residents interested in family planning, population, and development issues attended the event.
- PATH, in collaboration with and funds from UNFPA, conducted a programme to assist China to improve the efficacy and safety of contraceptives manufactured in China. The programme started in 1979 and officially ended in 1998. Similar programmes were conducted in India, Indonesia, Mexico, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- PATH has worked for several years with commercial and academic collaborators to develop and introduce diagnostic technologies for sexually transmitted infections and other infectious diseases that are low-cost, rapid and easy to use. This work has been funded by a host of agencies including UNFPA and the World Bank.
- PATH, for 17 years, has published *Outlook*, which features news on reproductive health technologies and topics of interest to developing countries. *Outlook* is published four or five times a year in Chinese, English, French, Indonesian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish; and reaches over 35,000 readers in more than 180 countries. Major funding for *Outlook* comes from UNFPA; additional funders include WHO.

10. Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

The Wittenberg Center acts to create forums and disseminate information between traditional indigenous peoples, grass-roots environmental and interfaith spiritual networks, and to facilitate modalities of interchange between traditional indigenous elders, grass-roots groups and policy makers to promote ways to achieve a sustainable world for all peoples. The Wittenberg Center seeks opportunities for people of all faiths, colours and traditions to come together in mutual respect to address the problems that face us at this critical time.

Highlights of the Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources NGO activities 1995-1998

(Unless noted, all activities took place at United Nations Headquarters in New York)

17 January 1995: Prepcom for Social Summit. The Wittenberg Center for Alternatives Resources sponsored a presentation by Dr. Arvol Lookinghorse, the 19th Generation Keeper of the Sacred Calf Pepe on "Indigenous Wisdom, Prophecies and Society".

15 March-4 April 1995: Prepcom for Fourth World Conference on Woman, "Earthkeepers: women of the four directions", meetings and round tables, co-sponsored by the Wittenberg Center.

18-20 September 1995: 48th annual Department of Public Information/NGO conference, "The United Nations at the turn of the century: global action, global responsibility", facilitated NGO panels and round tables.

24 October 1995: "We the peoples: 50 communities awards", Wittenberg Center was awarded a certificate of recognition by the friends of the United Nations.

5-15 February 1996: Third Prepcom, Habitat II, "Values of Indigenous Peoples in relationship to the Habitat Agenda", a Values Caucus panel discussion co-sponsored by the Wittenberg Center.

18 April-3 May 1996: Commission on Social Development, representatives participated with the Indigenous Peoples Caucus. Report prepared for circulation through the United Nations NGO Committee on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

6 October 1996: Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, Turkey, Wittenberg Center assisted the Centre for Human Rights in organizing round-table discussions and presentations on "**Indigenous peoples, shelter and the land**".

21 June 1996: "World Peace Prayer Day for Global Healing", Grey Horn Butte, Wyoming, United States of America, Executive Director acted as facilitator for event.

10-12 September 1996: Forty-ninth annual Department of Public Information/NGO conference "The United Nations: Facing the challenges of a Changing World". Representative Monica Willard was chair of the conference planning committee; and representative Grace Smith Yellowhammer was a keynote speaker.

December 1996-present: United Nations NGO Committee on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, Wittenberg Center representatives Pamela Kraft and Roberto Borrero, Vice-Chairs. Activities include coordination of subcommittees and issuing updated lists of various United Nations agency focal points and resources for indigenous and tribal peoples. Executive Director helped to draft the questionnaire on activities of United Nations Member States on programmes and initiatives pertinent to the Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. **9 December 1996** — meeting held with Mr. Ibrahima Fall, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights was coordinated by Wittenberg Center Representative Kraft.

9 December 1996: Informal soundings on NGOs and the United Nations, Executive Director presented a statement.

April 1997: Commission on Social Development, Representatives coordinated through the Indigenous Caucus meetings, Earth Summit II, creating linkages between Values Caucus, Indigenous Peoples and Women's Caucus. Representatives worked on major groups participating under Agenda 21. **9 April 1997: "Working Together: Shared Values in Sustainable Development"**. Representative Borrero panellist.

30 April 1997: "NGO consultation on increasing access to the United Nations General Assembly and its Main Committees and all areas of the work of the United Nations", Executive Director participated.

8 August 1997: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples: Pamela Kraft, Programme Chair; Roberto Borrero, Master of Ceremonies and Co-Chair for dialogue sessions on "Indigenous Peoples and the Land".

22 January-6 February 1998: Black Mesa and Phoenix, Arizona, United States of America, the Executive Director and representatives attended special hearing and acted as NGO observers for the visit of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance to indigenous sacred lands.

30 January-4 April 1998: A Season of Nonviolence, co-sponsored the opening and closing ceremonies.

23 February-6 March 1998: Intersessional meeting for the Commission on Sustainable Development. Focus on inclusion of indigenous peoples as major group participants.

20 April-1 May 1998: Commission on Sustainable Development, NGO parallel forum on Indigenous Peoples Agenda 21.

23 April 1998: Values caucus event honouring the International Association of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations, held at the Church Center, the Wittenberg Center, co-sponsor.

14 May 1998: the United Youth International Youth Conference, the Wittenberg Center co-sponsored a workshop on the Earth Charter.

5 and 6 August 1998: Fourth commemoration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. The theme was "Education and Language". Representative Pamela Kraft was Chair of the Programme Committee, and Roberto Borrero was Master of Ceremonies. A complete report was issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

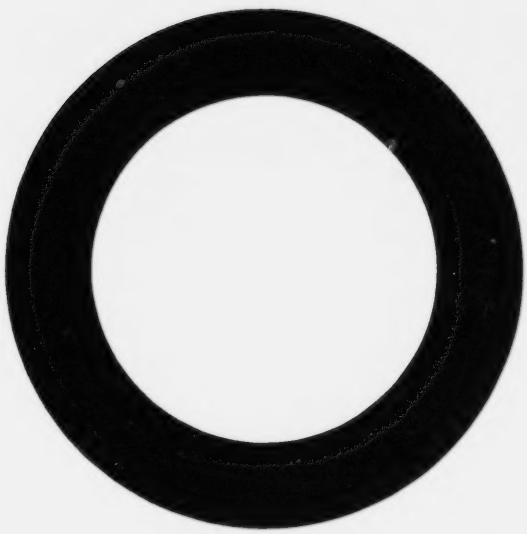
14-16 September 1998: Department of Public Information/NGO Conference on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: From Words to Deeds, representative Monica Willard served on the Executive Committee coordinating this event.

15 September 1998: International Day of Peace, representatives served on planning committee.

16 September 1998. Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources co-sponsored the **Second Annual Inter-faith Service of Commitment to the Work of the United Nations**, which commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

26 and 27 September 1998: Prayer Vigil for the Earth, Washington, D.C., co-sponsored by the Wittenberg Center.

4-10 October 1998: "Belonging to Mother Earth Conference", Virginia Beach, Virginia, United States of America, the Wittenberg Center co-sponsored an international gathering of indigenous prophecy keepers.



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Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. World Confederation of Labour

(General consultative status since 1947)

This report contains information on various significant activities organized by WCL during the period 1995-1998 in the United Nations and some of its agencies. It does not refer to the visits, participation in regional meetings of the Economic and Social Council, preparatory seminars of the major United Nations conferences and campaigns organized by WCL.

Background

The World Confederation of Labour (WCL) is an international movement of trade union organizations. It fights for the creation of economic, social, cultural and political structures for the integrated development of the human person. WCL is dedicated to the study, representation and defence of the material, moral and spiritual interests of workers. It also subscribes to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the ideals set out in the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, in the constitutional instruments of the International Labour Organization (ILO). WCL has 26 million members in 136 affiliated organizations in 114 countries.

Economic and Social Council

WCL representatives have participated in the meetings of the Council and have spoken on various agenda items:

In 1995, during the Council's substantive session in July in Geneva, the WCL Secretary-General had a meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. During this period, WCL representatives participated actively in the preparatory committees for the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development, including the Secretary-General, who participated personally in the preparatory meeting held in New York from 6 to 12 March 1995. A WCL confederal secretary also took part in a seminar on "The involvement of civil society in the follow-up to the Social Summit" held on 22 and 23 June.

From 24 June to 26 July 1996, the WCL special representative at the United Nations in New York represented our international organization at the session of the Council, at which the following topics were among those debated: poverty eradication, cooperation for social development, human rights, and advancement of women.

In 1997, WCL participated in the Council's substantive session and made a statement on the agenda item on the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations international conferences and summits.

Commission on Human Rights

In 1995, at the Commission's fifty-first session, WCL made statements on the right to development (agenda item 8) and on the violation of human rights in any part of the world (item 12).

In 1996 (fifty-second session), WCL made statements on items 10 (human rights violations) and 11 (migrant workers). A department of human rights and

international labour standards was created in the WCL secretariat. Its tasks include following the activities of the Commission.

In 1997 (fifty-third session), WCL made statements on item 10 (human rights violations).

In 1998 (fifty-fourth session), the director of the Standards Programme service and several WCL delegates attended the Commission.

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

WCL participated in the forty-seventh session (1995), the forty-eighth session (1996), the forty-ninth session (1997) and the fiftieth session (1998), making statements on various agenda items.

Other specialized agencies of the United Nations

(a) International Labour Organization/International Labour Office. As an international trade union organization, WCL has participated actively in most of the ILO tripartite meetings and in the eighty-second, eighty-third, eighty-fourth and eighty-fifth sessions of the International Labour Conference (ILC), which takes place in June each year. The President of the WCL regional organization for Africa was elected to the Governing Body (eighty-third session of the Conference). WCL makes statements, notably in the debate on the report of the Director-General. The WCL President chairs the ILC Committee on the Application of Standards. It is the WCL permanent representative in Geneva who coordinates the follow-up cases (complaints, Committee on Freedom of Association, representation) in the International Labour Office. Representatives of the WCL Executive Committee (President, Secretary-General and others) have had meetings, both formal and informal, with the ILO Director-General (19 and 20 February 1996). The confederal secretaries participate in ILO regional conferences according to their geographical responsibilities (Warsaw, 24-26 September).

(b) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). WCL participated in all the consultative meetings and working groups involving non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and trade unions, including:

(i) 1995: Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations (24-28 April), Trade and Development Board (11-15 December);

(ii) 1996: UNCTAD IX (27 April to 11 May, South Africa);

(iii) 1998: Round table organized in Geneva for a selected group of ambassadors and NGO representatives on the possibility of establishing a multilateral framework for investment (10 June); the following questions were addressed: the Asian crisis and the persistence of poverty; the vulnerability of weak economies in the face of liberalization and globalization; the effects of direct foreign investment on social and cultural development; and the need to broaden dialogue with the various components of civil society.

(c) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). WCL has an operational relationship with this agency: the WCL special representative participates, as an observer, chiefly in the General Conference of UNESCO, in NGO conferences and councils and in the joint programme committee. In 1998, WCL was elected to the NGO Council.

(d) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). From 1995 to 1997, WCL participated actively in working groups on food security, genetically modified organisms and agrarian reform; the 13th consultative meeting between FAO and international trade union organizations; and the preparatory work for the World Food Summit in Rabat, Morocco. WCL was represented at the World Food Summit by the head of the press service and the Secretary-General of our Moroccan organization. In 1998, WCL invited FAO to the World Farmers' Congress in Honduras.

(e) International Monetary Fund (IMF)/World Bank. In February 1995, WCL organized a seminar on IMF and World Bank policy in Central and Eastern Europe. Since 1996, WCL has maintained regular contact (visits at the start of each year by a WCL delegation) with these institutions. The President and Secretary-General and an adviser have initiated a relationship with these institutions in order to exchange information on structural adjustment policies and their impact on workers. In January 1998, the delegation consisted of representatives of the Asian organizations affiliated to WCL, the Vice-President for Asia, the President and the Secretary-General.

Conferences

(i) WCL participated in the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1996): statement by WCL based on the resolutions of its twenty-third congress.

(ii) Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 4-15 September 1995): WCL was represented by the President of the WCL World Committee on Women Workers, which presented a plan of action for the advancement of women in trade union organizations and places of employment.

(iii) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996): participation of the Vice-President of the World Federation of Building and Woodworkers' Unions, which is affiliated to WCL.

(iv) Ninth World Congress on Social Tourism (International Bureau of Social Tourism) (Montreal, September 1996): participation of the Secretary-General of the World Federation of Agriculture, Food, Hotel and Allied Workers (affiliated to WCL) and the Secretary-General of the organization in the Dominican Republic (affiliated to WCL).

2. DEVNET Association

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

The DEVNET Association is an international, non-profit, non-governmental organization, created according to the recommendations adopted by the Inter-Governmental Advisory Board of the Technology and Trade Information Promotion System (TIPS) held in Rome in March 1989 convened by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1995, granted consultative status (category I) to the DEVNET Association.

The DEVNET Association, as set forth in its charter, is committed to the principles of the United Nations relating to peace and international understanding and international cooperation for development and, in particular, to those principles set up by the competent authorities of the United Nations in the field of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries.

The aim of the Association is to contribute to the development of the African, Asian, Eastern European and Latin American countries.

The geographical membership increased during the quadrennial period (1995-1988).

The organization maintains working relations with all the Governments of the countries participating in TIPS, with countries that have a special interest in the field of communication development and those that have special interest in the exchange of trade and technology information.

The organization has cooperation agreements with UNDP, the United Nations Industrial Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the United Nations Environment Development Programme (UNEP).

The organization gives visibility to United Nations events through its web site.

During the period 1995-1998, the organization greatly expanded: seven TIPS bureaux have been set up in southern and Central Europe, national bureaux and correspondent offices have been set up in all Latin American countries, and the organization is currently expanding in the least developed Asian countries.

During the course of this four-year period the organization proved to be an effective tool for:

(a) Providing companies and institutions from developing countries with information and communications tools and high quality services to enable them to compete in the global market and make good business deals;

(b) Active participation in the development of a global electronic commerce system by promoting the democratization of information access and fostering the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises from developing countries in conditions of equality;

(c) Promoting the generation of alliances with business entities, increasing as much as possible the links between companies;

(d) Contributing to the development of a culture in the use of information telematics for modern business management.

3. Franciscans International

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

Franciscans International is pleased to submit the present quadrennial report to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

Franciscans International was founded in 1989 and granted general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 1995. It serves all Franciscans, men and women, who follow the vision of Saint Francis of Assisi, and the world community by bringing spiritual, ethical and Franciscan principles and values to the various United Nations forums and agendas. As an NGO, Franciscans International seeks especially to represent and act upon environmental concerns, peace-making and the needs of the poor.

Franciscans International has active members on every continent and in 83 countries, an increase of 17 countries since 1995, notably in Europe and Africa. It has seen a growth in membership from 17,000 to approximately 35,500, both active individual members (15,885) and those represented by Franciscan organizational members in provinces, fraternities, etc. which increased from 18 to 133 units in the same period. The worldwide Franciscan population numbers 1 million women and men.

The organization has participated continuously in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and conferences and other United Nations meetings. A sampling for 1995-1998 follows: United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC): 1998, Buenos Aires, oral/written statements in support of the Kyoto Protocols; UNFCCC, 1997, Kyoto, oral and written statements on reduction of greenhouse gases; World Food Summit, 1996, Rome, oral/written statement and NGO drafting committee; United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), 1996, Istanbul, oral/written statements on solidarity with displaced peoples, helped establish the Rural-Urban Linkages Caucus, attended three sessions of the Preparatory Committee, 1994-1996; Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995, Beijing, written statement and workshop on non-violence and simplicity of life, attended three sessions of the Preparatory Committee, 1994-1995; World Summit for Social Development, 1995, Copenhagen, oral/written statement on eradication of poverty, establishment of the Values Caucus, oral/written statements at three sessions of the Preparatory Committee, 1994-1995.

Franciscans International has followed and actively supported the work of the Economic and Social Council through the leadership of permanent representatives at: United Nations Headquarters and in Geneva; the regional commissions in Africa, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean; and at the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in Nairobi. Franciscans International also made written interventions during the 1996 substantive session of the Council on the advancement of women, and food and agricultural development.

To further the relationship with the Council, international Franciscan delegations have performed effectively during the annual meetings of the following United Nations bodies: Commission on Human Rights, fifty-second to fifty-fourth sessions and the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-seventh to forty-ninth sessions, Geneva, oral/written statements on the right to development, education of women, the girl child, debt relief, refugees, privatization of military protection and freedom of religion; Commission for Social Development, thirty-third to thirty-sixth sessions, New York, co-sponsored written statements on debt cancellation and/or eradication of poverty; Commission on the Status of Women, thirty-ninth to forty-second sessions and serving as Registrar for

the NGO Consultations prior to the forty-first and forty-second sessions, New York; Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, eighteenth and nineteenth sessions, New York, with representation from Italy, the United States and Senegal; Commission for Sustainable Development, third to sixth sessions, New York, oral/written statements, side events and three Franciscan projects published in "Sustainable Development Success Stories" (Division for Sustainable Development, New York, 1997).

Franciscans International has cooperated with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies since its inception and, notably, from 1995 to 1998 with the following entities: in 1998, the United Nations University for Peace, Costa Rica, and Franciscans International held a symposium for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the proposals related to the Culture of Peace project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through its quarterly newsletter (translated from English into French, Spanish and German, with digests in Japanese, Italian, Arabic and other languages). Franciscans International has promoted the Culture of Peace programme with an emphasis on universal education for peace projects; Franciscans International has permanent representatives at UNESCO in Paris; in the field, Franciscans International in Jamaica directed a centre for displaced persons under the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 1994-1997.

Other relevant activities in 1995-1998 include:

(a) Actions in implementation of United Nations resolutions, such as: in 1995, the endorsement through organizational memberships by 32,000 Franciscans in India of "A Franciscan manifesto", a pledge to United Nations ideals addressed to the Secretary-General in the fiftieth anniversary year of the United Nations, to work for the "... eradication of poverty, habitat for all people, ... reverential use of mother earth, sister water and brother air"; the gathering of 15,000 Franciscan signatures on petitions circulated by Franciscans International in support of the Jubilee 2000 campaign to cancel world debt (in July 1999, these were increased to 25,000 and presented to the Chancellor of Germany at the meeting of the Group of Eight (G-8) in Cologne); and the gathering of thousands of Franciscan signatures to ban landmines, presented by Franciscans International delegations to the two conferences held in Ottawa, Canada, to adopt a treaty on landmines;

(b) In 1998, preparation of a questionnaire on financing for development at the request of the Vice-Chairpersons of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group of the General Assembly on Financing for Development;

(c) Participation in the long-range preparations for the Millennium Forum (to be held 22-26 May 2000): Franciscans International is co-convenor of the eradication of poverty thematic working group and drafted the position paper for the theme; it also serves as Executive Secretary for the Executive Committee on the Forum;

(d) Since 1998, Franciscans International has chaired the Focus Group on Religion and Spirituality of the Hague Appeal for Peace Conference (11-15 May 1999). From the Hague Agenda, or Plan of Action, the Focus Group has adopted the establishment of a universal peace education campaign as its goal; this goal embraces UNESCO's Culture of Peace programme;

(e) To monitor and participate in the implementation of the agenda of the Economic and Social Council, Franciscans International has been active on many of the NGO standing committees, notably those on sustainable development (chair, 1994-1998); the Executive Committee (1994 to present); the Bureau of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) (1994 to present); social development (Vice-Chair, 1998 to present); status of women (Secretary, 1997-1999); and active memberships on other NGO committees such as those on human rights, freedom of religion or belief, youth, and the subcommittee on the girl child.

4. Inuit Circumpolar Conference

(Special consultative status granted in 1983)

Introduction

Inuit Circumpolar Conference is an international organization representing approximately 152,000 Inuit people from Greenland, Canada, Alaska and Chukotka in the Russian Federation.

The principal aims and purposes of the organization are:

(a) To strengthen unity among Inuit of the circumpolar region;

(b) To promote Inuit and other indigenous people's rights and interests on an international level;

(c) To develop and encourage long-term policies which safeguard the Arctic environment; and

(d) To seek full and active partnership in the political, economic, and social development of circumpolar regions.

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference General Assembly is held every four years, bringing together Inuit from across the northern cirumpolar region. Assembly delegates elect a president and an executive council, and develop policies and resolutions for the coming term. The General Assembly is integral to the organization as it allows for discussion of common concerns, gives direction to the organization and strengthens the cultural bonds between all Inuit.

The mandate

One of the principal goals of Inuit Circumpolar Conference was established at its inaugural Assembly: that of promoting Inuit and other indigenous peoples' rights and interests on an international level. The theme of Inuit Circumpolar Conference's General Assembly in 1995 echoed this position, "Inuit way of life — A human right", and all our activities over the past four years have kept this mandate central to our work. Two resolutions were adopted during the 1995 Assembly giving the mandate for the future work of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference within the United Nations system.

The representatives of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference within the work of the United Nations are:

(a) Greenland: Mr. Aqqaluk Lynge, Vice-President (1995-1997) and President (1997-); Mr. Hjalmar Dahl, Executive Assistant;

(b) Canada: Sheila Watt-Cloutier, Vice-President;

(c) Alaska: Dennis Tiepelman, Vice-President.

Main areas of activities within the United Nations system

During the reporting period the Inuit Circumpolar Conference attend the following United Nations meetings:

Sessions attended in 1995:

(a) Fifty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva;

(b) United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, July, Geneva;

(c) First session of the Commission on Human Rights inter-sessional open-ended working group to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with Commission resolution 1995/32 (so-called working group on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples) November/December, Geneva.

Sessions attended in 1996:

(a) Fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva;

(b) United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, July/August, Geneva;

(c) Second session of the working group on the draft declaration, October/November, Geneva.

Sessions attended in 1997:

(a) Fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva;

(b) Second technical workshop on the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system held in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/30, June/July, Santiago;

(c) United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, June/July, Geneva;

(d) Third session of the working group on the draft declaration, October/November, Geneva.

Sessions attended in 1998:

(a) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva;

(b) United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations, June/July, Geneva;

(c) Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, August, Geneva;

(d) Fourth session of the working group on the draft declaration, November/December, Geneva.

Since the establishment of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP) in 1982, its sessions have been held at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The main objectives and mandate of WGIP are to focus on the problems faced by indigenous peoples internationally and to draft and develop a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples as well as to review developments concerning the living conditions of indigenous peoples worldwide, and to report to the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, which reports to the Commission on Human Rights and which further reports and makes recommendations to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

Throughout the sessions of WGIP every year, Inuit Circumpolar Conference uses the opportunity to speak in order to further recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples internationally. During the last five years the focus has been on the draft declaration. Every year since 1994 the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, along with other indigenous peoples' organizations and representatives, accepted the current text of the draft declaration as an expression of the minimum international standards for the protection and promotion of indigenous peoples' rights. The draft declaration was adopted by WGIP at its eleventh session and endorsed by the Subcommission through a resolution, which was considered by the Commission on Human Rights in 1995.

By resolution 1995/32, the Commission on Human Rights decided to establish an open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission with the sole purpose of elaborating a draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly within the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

This working group has met four times since its establishment with no measurable progress towards the adoption of the declaration. Through oral and written statements, Inuit Circumpolar Conference, as well as other indigenous peoples' representatives, has tried to get the international community to understand the importance of the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples. This happens every year during the sessions of WGIP, the Subcommission and the Commission on Human Rights sessions. To date only two articles of the draft have been adopted, article 5, "Every indigenous individual has the right to a nationality" and article 43, "All the rights and freedoms recognized herein are equally guaranteed to male and female indigenous individuals".

Establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous peoples within the United Nations system

Also, at the above-mentioned United Nations sessions which Inuit Circumpolar Conference has been attending, efforts have been made to secure understanding in regard to a permanent forum for indigenous peoples within the United Nations system. Lobbying efforts have been made to the Governments during the sessions as well as through statements.

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference believes that such a permanent forum only can work through a high-level mandate. As far as the level at which the forum should be established is concerned, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, along with other indigenous peoples' representatives, is of the opinion that it should report directly to the Economic and Social Council.

The mandate of the forum should enable it to deal with issues covered by the mandate of the Council which are of concern to indigenous peoples. The mandate should include, but not be limited to, the submission of proposals, recommendations and reports to the Council and coordination of all matters pertaining to indigenous peoples. It should also be authorized to establish its own ad hoc working groups, if and when necessary.

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference is in favour of the proposal that a core group of the forum should be composed of a limited number of members of Governments and indigenous peoples, on an equal basis, representing all regions of the world.

Conclusion

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference considers a swift establishment of a permanent forum and the adoption of the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples as the most important tasks for the United Nations in the forthcoming years. All efforts should be mobilized to see these two processes completed before the end of the International Decade for the World's Indigenous People.

5. International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

Introductory statement

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) is an interdisciplinary, non-governmental research institution sponsored by a consortium of national member organizations in 15 countries. Sustainability and the human dimensions of global change are key concerns in IIASA's investigation of environmental, economic, technological and social developments. The Institute's strategic goal is the conducting of scientific studies to provide timely and relevant information and options for the benefit of the public, the scientific community and national and international institutions. Funds are allocated by the member countries for IIASA's general budget, and financial support for specific projects is also given by foundations as well as the European Union. Cooperation with the United Nations has always been on a broad basis. This has been true since IIASA was founded in 1972.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The following is broken down by IIASA project and year:

Transboundary Air Pollution Project

1995: in collaboration with WHO's Regional Office for Europe, efforts were made to introduce the latest thinking on exposure limits for human health into the assessment model for measuring ozone exposure. This included the introduction of a tool for the integrated assessment of strategies to reduce tropospheric ozone in Europe introduced to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

for the update of the Protocol concerning the Control of Nitrogen Oxides on Their Transboundary Fluxes (1988).

1996: the IIASA Regional Air Pollution Information and Simulation (RAINS) model was used for the integrated assessment of emission reduction strategies as a scientific support tool for the international negotiations on the Protocol on the Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions (1994) to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.

1997: work continued on the RAINS model to include the negotiations for a new model framework for initial scenario analysis in the framework in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe negotiations for a revised NOx protocol including a cooperative effort with the European Center for Environment and Health of the World Health Organization and other organizations to incorporate population exposure as an additional indicator into the integrated assessment model for evaluating the environmental impacts of European emission reduction strategies. The RAINS ozone model was presented to the Working Group on Strategies and Review of the Convention.

1998: the new model framework of the RAINS model was used for the negotiations on the second NOx protocol of the Convention.

1999: the RAINS model was used as the scientific basis for the continued negotiations on the second NOx protocol. The model is the main tool for analysing the cost-effectiveness of alternative emission control scenarios. The results of IIASA's analysis are regularly reviewed by the UN/ECE Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Task Force for Economic Aspects of Abatement Strategies and are presented to the negotiating body of the Convention, i.e., the Working Group on Strategies and Review.

Regional Material Balance Approaches to Long-term Environmental Policy Planning

1995: this project used the WHO reports on air quality guidelines for drinking water as a basis for later research into assessment of forest areas in which heavy metal loads could exceed various published estimates of threshold values for soils (Rhine Basin).

Implementation and Effectiveness of International Environmental Commitments

1995/1996: the project studies the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992; international processes of monitoring, verification and enforcement, with the goal of achieving systematic scholarly appraisal for environmental agreements, were studied. A further project compared "hard" (legally binding) and "soft" (non-binding) agreements on the undertaking on plant and genetic resources of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to study how to achieve specificity and promote the effectiveness of agreements. In particular, it explored how review mechanisms can be important in soft law agreements because they provide detailed information about needed adjustments, which tend to be easier to accomplish in more flexible soft law arrangements.

Water Resources Project

1995: workshops were held on the subject of the Study on Water Quality Management of Degraded River Basins in Central and Eastern Europe to which environmental NGOs were invited.

Radiation Safety of the Biosphere Project

1996 and 1997: scientific cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Abel Gonzalez, Deputy Director of the IAEA Division of Nuclear Safety, was elected as a member of the steering committee for the project.

1998 and 1999: collaboration with IAEA continued with an appraisal study of the radiation legacy of the former Soviet Union; collaborators included: Dr. Boris Semenov, Executive Secretary to the Contact Expert Group for International Radwaste Projects; Dr. Arnold Bonne, Acting Section Head of the Waste Technology Section; and Dr. Gonzalez.

Environmentally Compatible Energy Strategies Project

1995 to present: intensive collaboration with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, organized by the United Nations Environment Programme and WHO. 1996 to present: Nebojsa Nakicenovic served as Project Leader and Coordinating Lead Author of the IPCC Special Report on Emission Scenarios to be presented to the plenary session of the IPPC in March 2000. IIASA scientists also participated in Working Groups I, II and III as Lead Authors and contributing authors of the IPPC Second Assessment Report and as Lead Author of the Energy Primer.

Population Project

1995: participation at a meeting in Cairo co-organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on population estimates and projections in the Arab countries. The book, *Rethinking International Population Projections* that became *Frontiers of Population Forecasting* was edited by W. Lutz, J. W. Vaupel and P. Ahlburg.

6. Pax Christi International

(Special consultative status granted in 1979)

Pax Christi, the international Catholic Peace Movement, was founded in France in 1945 to foster peace and reconciliation. The movement has national sections, associate groups, affiliated organizations and individual corresponding members on all five continents. Its members, together with the International Council, the Executive Committee and the International Secretariat, are developing a whole series of initiatives to respond to people from all over the world where peace is most needed. Between 1995 and 1998, organizations in Bangladesh, Thailand, Pakistan, Guatemala and El Salvador, and three in India, became affiliated with Pax Christi International. New Pax Christi groups are emerging in places as widely separated as Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Japan. The movement continues to search for new approaches to peace in the fields of

demilitarization and security, human rights, ecology, economic justice, development and reconciliation. To work for a just and peaceful world, Pax Christi believes that it must influence those who have power within the current world order. In the belief that it can be an effective member of collaborative efforts to influence those systems and entities, Pax Christi International sees representation at international and regional governmental bodies as integral to its work.

The representatives of Pax Christi International at the United Nations perform their activities on a voluntary basis. An allowance is fixed each year to contribute to the travel and organizational expenses of the representation. The ordinary budget of Pax Christi International is covered through income received as annual contributions from the Pax Christi national sections. Projects are covered by grants and earmarked donations. The regular work of Pax Christi International is coordinated at the biennial International Pax Christi Council (held in London in July 1997) and by the annual meetings of international commissions and working groups which also give directions for the representations' work in the framework of the consultative status at the United Nations. The three commissions, each with representatives/experts from the national sections, deal with interest areas across regional lines. They are: Commission for Economic Justice/Development, Ecology and Peace; Human Rights Commission; Commission for Security, Demilitarization and Arms Trade. The working groups deal with issues important to particular regions (Africa, Asia/Pacific, Americas and Caribbean, Middle East, Central and Eastern Europe, Commonwealth of Independent States) or with special themes such as refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants; indigenous peoples, ethnic minority rights and peoples under occupation; impunity and truth commissions; children's rights; rights of women, and freedom of conscience and religion. The studies, research and experience gathered within the commissions and working groups are further substantiated by regional consultations. It is from the direction and focus of the total movement that Pax Christi International's efforts within the United Nations flow and through which the resolutions of the United Nations are implemented. Pax Christi International is a subscribing member of the International Peace Bureau, the World Organization Against Torture and Social Alert. Pax Christi International publishes an e-mail newsletter and a print newsletter in English and French that includes reports and announcements from the international movement and our representatives at the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna. Detailed reports of the work of the Pax Christi United Nations teams are regularly submitted to the Executive Committee and the appropriate commissions and/or working groups of Pax Christi International. United Nations team members also report regularly in the various magazines of national sections of Pax Christi.

1998 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The movement took an active part in the initiatives of the NGO coalition for the International Court of Justice at The Hague. The International Secretariat regularly corresponded with Kofi Annan, United Nations Secretary-General, and Mary Robinson, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, on urgent issues such as Iraq and the former Yugoslavia.

The Pax Christi team at the United Nations in New York dealt mainly with the following issues: disarmament, the arms trade and security issues, social development and human rights, interfaith dialogue, child soldiers, street children and refugees. Team members actively participated in United Nations meetings on subjects such as children, the United Nations Arms Register, the Non-Proliferation

Treaty (NPT) and on arms issues in general such as small arms and light weapons, the World Summit for Social Development, Habitat II and the Earth Summit. They networked with other NGOs with similar agendas, made interventions, attended seminars and study days and developed research files. The team participated actively with the NGO Committee on Disarmament. One representative attended the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly, compiled resource materials on issues such as the Arms Register, and had regular contacts with the United Nations Centre for Disarmament. Other representatives attended the Third Committee meetings on human rights issues. They also attended the various NGO committees: human rights, the family, and ageing. Each year, Pax Christi made an intervention on East Timor at the Special Committee of 24 on Decolonization.

The United Nations team spent much of its time on issues related to the World Summit for Social Development and participated at this Summit in 1995. Since then, the team has participated in sessions of the Commission for Social Development charged with follow-up to the Copenhagen Summit. Members were present at the Commission for Social Development in 1998 and made an oral intervention on the link between disarmament, the arms issue generally, and development. Work was also done regarding the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In all activities Pax Christi worked in collaboration with other NGOs, co-sponsoring the NGO Conference on Demilitarization Issues and making interventions at major NGO conferences on disarmament. One of the organization's representatives worked on the Iraq sanctions issue. At the request of Ambassador Juan Somavia of Chile, she researched elements for a sanctions policy framework for the United Nations and subsequently wrote a short paper, "Towards a framework for an international sanctions policy".

Representatives attended the Third Committee meetings on issues related to the rights of children. Attention was focused on four specific topics: child soldiers, children affected by armed conflict, street children, and exploited children (including child workers and child prostitutes). Members of the team participated in the NGO Committee for UNICEF and the working groups on children in armed conflict and exploited children.

Representatives were present at the formal presentation and at other events associated with the launching of the United Nations report on the study of the impact of armed conflict on children. Members attended the special meetings with Olara A. Otunnu, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflicts. Pax Christi fully supports the recommendations of the report by implementing the relevant recommendations and collaborating with other NGOs on workshops to study and promote the report. At the suggestion of members of the team in New York, an international Pax Christi working group on the rights of the child was formed in 1997.

Pax Christi representatives formed part of the planning committee to assist the United Nations Department of Public Information and NGO Executive Committee to organize the annual NGO Conference in New York. Representatives served on the hospitality committee, chaired one of the major panels, and one was a speaker for the panel on international sanctions. Pax Christi representatives on the inter-faith planning group were involved in preparations for various events such as the United Nations Meditation Room and the Temple of Understanding workshops. They were also involved in preparing ceremonies addressing issues of world religions.

Members were present at the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court and at the NGO-ICC caucus meetings.

The team in Geneva was active primarily in the field of human rights, most notably by organizing briefings and making interventions at the annual sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. Delegates were also present at meetings of the Working Group on Minorities and the Geneva Review Conference on the Conventional Weapons Convention (CCW) on the elimination of anti-personnel mines. The organization's representatives had regular contact with members of the governmental delegations and with the (special) rapporteurs.

Interventions in the United Nations Commission for Human Rights (both written and oral) during the fifty-first, fifty-second, fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions covered the issues of: religious intolerance; torture and disappearances; violations of human rights in all countries; the right to enjoy an adequate standard of living; the rights of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities; indigenous peoples; fundamental freedoms; detention or imprisonment; rights of the child (including international trafficking of children's organs); the role of youth in the promotion and protection of human rights; the right to conscientious objection as a basic human right; exploitation of women; mercenaries; impunity; migrants and displaced persons; the debt crisis and the right to development; anti-personnel mines; and extreme poverty. Most of these texts covered agenda items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 24. In a majority of these interventions specific situations or countries were mentioned such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, East Timor, Myanmar, Northern Ireland, Peru, Brazil, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Rwanda and Algeria. Written interventions focused mainly on the situations in Cuba, Colombia and Burundi. Some interventions were made in collaboration with other NGOs, for example on Guatemala, Mexico (Chiapas), Colombia and Turkey. Hearings were organized on the landmines issue and briefings were organized or co-organized on topics such as Chechnya, Turkey, East Timor, Haiti and Bougainville.

Interventions in the last four sessions of the Subcommissions on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities were on such topics as the situations in the Middle East; the realization of economic, social and cultural rights; contemporary forms of slavery; human rights of indigenous peoples; intolerance and discrimination; the administration of justice and human rights; freedom of movement; the situation regarding the promotion, full realization and protection of the rights of children and youth; the review of further developments; and, in close cooperation with other NGOs, the International Year of the World's Indigenous People and apartheid, racism and discrimination. Briefings were organized or co-organized on Turkey, Indonesia and East Timor, West Papua and Bougainville.

Each year, a report has been published covering all the oral and written interventions, an overview of the activities of the representatives, and an analysis of the sessions of both the Commission for Human Rights and the Subcommission. These reports have been widely distributed within the movement. Fact-finding visits and missions have studied the human rights situations in Central Africa (1995), the Middle East (1997) and Central America and Mexico (1997). Cardinal Danneels, on behalf of Pax Christi International, and Dr. Konrad Raiser, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, published a joint declaration in which they characterized nuclear dissuasion as morally perverse. They were both present in

Geneva for the Preparatory Committee of the Review of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in April 1998. Members attended the seminar organized by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on "Enriching the universality of human rights: Islamic perspectives on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" in November 1998.

In Vienna, the organization's representative is active within the NGO Committee on Disarmament. As a member of that committee, he has much contact with official delegates and members of the United Nations Secretariat. Special involvement was developed in matters of nuclear-weapon-free zones, NPT, the campaign to ban landmines and nuclear weapons and Abolition 2000. A specific concerns of the representative in Vienna is the rights of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants.

7. Service Peace and Justice in Latin America

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

The Service Peace and Justice in Latin America (SERPAJ-LA) is an international organization of Christian, ecumenical and humanist inspiration. Its objectives are the construction of peace as a fruit of justice and the protection, defence and promotion of human rights. For this purpose it carries out activities of education in human rights, social development, resolution of conflicts based on active non-violence, and social and political studies. In June 1998 Efraín Olivera Lerena was elected General Coordinator and as a result the headquarters of SERPAJ-LA were transferred to Montevideo. The Deputy Coordinator is the attorney Gustavo Cabrera Vega who resides in San José and the Executive Secretary is Dr. Ariela Peralta who resides in Montevideo.

Since the granting of consultative status SERPAJ-LA has strengthened its participation in all human rights-related areas and events within the Economic and Social Council, particularly the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission for Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. In 1992 work was started with the aim of coordinating initiatives in fields such as impunity and the elaboration of international instruments against forced disappearances.

In 1995, written communications were submitted to the Subcommission on the right to development, debt and human rights, the right to justice and impunity; a joint statement by SERPAJ-LA and the Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees was made to the Commission.

Also in 1995 SERPAJ-LA participated in the World Summit for Social Development and in the whole preparatory process, at national and regional levels, and at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and in meetings of the preparatory process. The same year SERPAJ-LA contributed to a report by Argentine non-governmental organizations to the United Nations Human Rights Committee concerning the report of Argentina on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and to a report on the implementation by Argentina to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of that International Covenant.

In 1996, at the Commission on Human Rights, SERPAJ-LA again made a joint statement on disappeared detainees. It also intervened on the items concerning the right to development and the draft declaration on human rights defenders.

At the Subcommission we supported the work of the experts appointed for the study on impunity, making specific contributions at meetings.

In 1997, SERPAJ-LA submitted a report on the situation of women in Argentina to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, New York.

Luis Pérez Aguirre was nominated in 1994 as an expert member of the programme of advisory services and the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the field of human rights.

In 1996 the President of the Honorary Committee, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, attended a meeting at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. In 1997 he attended the meeting of the international jury for the Felix Houphouet-Boigny Peace Prize at UNESCO headquarters.

In 1997 SERPAJ-LA participated in activities of the United Nations Information Centres in Argentina and Uruguay (e.g. participation of Adolfo Pérez Esquivel at a round table on "Alternative medicines: alternative for peace" in Buenos Aires, 30 September).

In 1998 Adolfo Pérez Esquivel again participated in the meeting of the international jury for the Felix Houphouet-Boigny Peace Prize. He also travelled to Haiti, invited by the United Nations/Organization of American States mission, to follow up the human rights situation and to give several lectures on the topic (2-8 August). Mr. Pérez Esquivel participated in a panel discussion on the future of the hemisphere with Nobel prizewinners in Washington D.C.

In 1995 we supported the peace negotiations between Ecuador and Peru, with the visit of Adolfo Pérez Esquivel to those countries (18-23 February).

In 1995-1996 we supported the peace negotiations in Chiapas with a visit by Adolfo Pérez Esquivel to Mexico (3-9 June 1995) and a meeting in Buenos Aires on 29 July 1996, with the participation of Don Samuel Ruiz and Adolfo Pérez Esquivel.

In 1996 we participated in the Week of Tolerance organized by UNESCO in Buenos Aires (12 April).

The members of the Latin American Coordination (the executive body of SERPAJ-LA) participated in international forums where topics concerning the comprehensive protection of the child, notably the UNICEF meeting in April 1996 in Ecuador.

SERPAJ-LA undertook projects supporting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, through the participation in the Committee on the Rights of the Child, through work with minors in social risk situations in the "Aldea de los Niños para la Paz" (Children's Village for Peace) in Argentina, through the work with children living; and working in the streets, through reports and complaints (including to United Nations agencies), and training and information workshops, etc. We participated in the campaign for a decade for a culture of peace and non-violence and for the proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of the year 2000 as International Year for a Culture of Peace. During the year of the

fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we organized workshops on human rights in Argentina. An Open Lecture on Human Rights was held at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Buenos Aires, coordinated by Adolfo Pérez Esquivel (during the whole of 1998). Adolfo Pérez Esquivel participated in the celebrations of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at UNESCO headquarters.

SERPAJ Uruguay carried out activities within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights (distance courses, workshops, series of debates, publications, etc.). A report was sent to Mr. Enrique ter Horst, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, in August 1998.

In 1999 SERPAJ Ecuador received an honorary mention from UNESCO for its contribution to the promotion of education for peace and human rights and for its constant struggle to promote a culture of peace.

SERPAJ-LA publishes a great number of materials on diverse topics concerning its different work areas through the national secretariats. At the same time, members of the Honorary Committee publish articles on diverse issues of our field of action periodically. As an example, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel wrote several articles on the issue of human rights for *Le Monde diplomatique*, the newspaper *La Jornada de México* and others.

Several studies have been published focusing on specific topics. Publication No. 9, for example, was concerned with economic, social and cultural rights, and it was based on the report of the United Nations expert, Danilo Türk. In 1994 a book by the then General Coordinator of SERPAJ-LA, Nelsa Curbelo, was published. The book was called "Con el pueblo, de camino" (With the people, on the way) and it summarized the experiences of the four years of her administration (1990-1994). These experiences were a result of the trips and the knowledge of the way of life of different Latin American peoples.

8. Organization of African Trade Union Unity

(General consultative status granted in 1975)

Introduction

The Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) is an independent African continental trade union organization that has national trade union centres from all African countries as its affiliates. It represents all the trade union tendencies in Africa. It was created by a constituent Congress of African National Trade Union Centres in April 1973 in Addis Ababa. It is a specialized agency of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Although it is an independent African Trade Union Organization, it maintains fraternal relations with trade union organizations throughout the world.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the OATUU include:

(a) The coordination of the activities of national trade union centres in Africa towards the objectives of the OATUU Charter;

(b) Realization of trade union unity at continental and national levels;

(c) The defence of the material, social, economic, cultural and moral interests of the African working class;

(d) The harmonization of labour legislation and collective agreements in Africa;

(e) The protection and affirmation of the independence and personality of the African trade union movement;

(f) The defence and strengthening of the democratic freedoms of the trade unions;

(g) Working for the independence and unity of Africa;

(h) To contribute to the achievement and consolidation of peace in the world, etc.

The geographical coverage of the organization is the 54 African countries, including Western Sahara. It represents about 25 million workers throughout Africa.

The activities relevant to the work of the United Nations and its agencies carried out by the OATUU in 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998 are as follows.

1995

The Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General of the organization attended the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen (6-12 March).

In collaboration with the ILO and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), OATUU organized a seminar on "Population management in Africa and the role of trade unions" in Accra (16-18 May).

Seven top leaders of the organization, led by the Secretary-General, attended the eighty-second session of the International Labour Conference in Geneva (6-23 June).

The organization was represented by four delegates at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing (4-15 September).

The Secretary-General, as well as OATUU's Permanent Representative to the ILO in Geneva, attended the 264th session of the ILO Governing Body in Geneva (2-17 November).

An Assistant Secretary-General represented the organization at the launching of the UNDP *Human Development Report* in Accra (8 November).

An Assistant Secretary-General represented the organization at the launching of the Economic Commission for Africa's Development Policies Management Forum in Addis Ababa (4-5 December).

1996

The Treasurer-General represented the organization at the consultative meeting of FAO and NGOs in Ouagadougou (14-16 April).

A six-person delegation led by the Secretary-General represented the organization at the eighty-third session of the International Labour Conference in Geneva (4-20 June).

The Secretary-General represented the organization at the Singapore Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) (9-13 December).

1997

An Assistant Secretary-General represented the organization at the ILO's second evaluation meeting on the socio-economic consequences of the devaluation of the CFA on countries of the Franc zone in Yaoundé (23-25 July).

The Treasurer-General represented the organization at the Annual Assembly of the African Development Bank in Abidjan (27-30 May).

The Secretary-General led a six-person delegation to the eighty-fifth session of the International Labour Conference in Geneva (3-19 June).

An Assistant Secretary-General represented the organization at the ILO Tripartite Meeting for French-speaking African countries on "The prevention of drug addiction and alcoholism at the workplace", held in Dakar (10-14 November).

The Treasurer-General represented the organization at the ILO regional conference on "The development of social policies in French-speaking Africa" in Abidjan (1-12 December).

1998

The Coordinator for Women Workers represented the organization at the Africa Leadership Forum Conference on Women in Maputo (February).

An Assistant Secretary-General represented the organization at the OAU/ILO/UNICEF tripartite regional meeting on child labour in Kampala (5-7 February).

The Secretary-General and the Permanent Representative to the ILO represented the organization at the 271st session of the ILO Governing Body in Geneva (13-27 March).

The Coordinator for Women Workers represented the organization at the fortieth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa (28 April-1 May).

The Treasurer-General represented the organization at the thirty-fourth Annual Assembly of the African Development Bank in Abidjan (26-27 May).

The Treasurer-General also represented the organization at the twenty-fifth FAO Annual Assembly in Abidjan (28-29 May).

The Secretary-General led a six-person delegation to the eighty-sixth session of the International Labour Conference in Geneva (2-18 June).

The Secretary-General represented the organization at the second Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD-II) (14-21 October).

The Secretary-General and the Permanent Representative to the ILO represented the organization at the 273rd session of the ILO Governing Body in Geneva (5-20 November).

The Secretary-General represented the organization at the second Economic Commission for Africa conference on "Democracy, civil society and governance in Africa" at Addis Ababa (7-10 December).

9. World Federation of Democractic Youth

(General consultative status granted in 1947)

Brief statement on aims and purposes

The World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) is a broad international non-governmental youth organization which brings together national youth organizations with diverse cultural, religious, social, economic and political systems. WFDY was founded in London on 10 November 1945. It now has 167 affiliates: 33 in Africa, 20 in the Middle East, 41 in Asia and the Pacific, 35 in Europe and 38 in Latin America. WFDY also has working relationships with many youth organizations and intergovernmental and governmental institutes. WFDY continues to expand its geographical and political scope involving youth groups in its activities regardless of their political, religional and cultural backgrounds. WFDY coordinates its activities for the interest of youth and contributes to the common ideals of freedom, independence, democracy, friendship, international solidarity and world peace. It considers its work as a contribution to the work of the United Nations as the most certain way of ensuring the protection of the rights and interests of youth and the happiness and well-being of future generations.

WFDY carries out political, economic and social activities and works in the field of education and culture. WFDY's aim is to further the development of the young generation in the spirit of peace and international friendship and support the noble principles of the Charter of the United Nations. For the period 1994-1997, WFDY has been engaged mainly in the implementation of the decisions of the fourteenth Assembly which was held in Lisbon in February 1995, during which concrete resolutions were adopted as to the work and activities of the Federation. Thus, the Federation was able to carry out its activities irrespective of the paucity of resources and financial constraints.

As an international youth organization, WFDY has always considered maintaining close contacts with the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), as a top priority, more so in programmes related to youths. In all our activities we include as items on the agenda for discussion WFDY's wish to participate and improve our cooperation with UNESCO and the United Nations system. WFDY continues to maintain its permanent representation at UNESCO and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations meetings

Seventy-five youth organizations from 80 countries took part in the WFDY Assembly in February 1995. In the framework of the Assembly, WFDY organized jointly with the Youth Unit of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs an international meeting on the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year; 85 NGOs participated in this meeting.

For the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen, WFDY participated in the preparatory process and attended the meeting with a large delegation comprising 20 youth organizations representing the five continents. WFDY organized with other international youth NGOs the International Youth Consultation on the Social Summit in Copenhagen (1-3 March 1995).

For the Fourth World Conference on Women, WFDY participated in the preparatory process and the Conference in Beijing. WFDY affiliates as well as friendly women's groups from all over the world benefited from WFDY's consultative status with the Economic and Social Council by taking part in the Conference.

WFDY's representative took part in the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in Istanbul and its parallel activities. WFDY, along with other NGOs in consultative status, organized the International Youth Consultation within the NGO Forum, where youth groups from 65 countries took part to exchange views.

The 2nd Session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System (WYF), 25-29 November 1996, Vienna, Austria. WFDY, in cooperation with United Nations bodies and international youth NGOs, organized the UNWYF that brought 600 youth.

Work with UNESCO

WFDY supported the "Reading for All" campaign for Africa in 1994-1995.

WFDY participation in the twenty-ninth session of the UNESCO General Conference, Paris, 22-23 November 1997.

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations WFDY organized a number of events all over the world to promote the principles of the United Nations at the grass-roots level. Celebration took place in Havana (10 August 1995) in which 40 organizations participated; Moscow (5-6 November 1995), 20 organizations; Budapest (3 November 1995), 300 persons; Paris (11 November 1995), 15 organizations; Calcutta, India (14-19 November 1995), 25 organizations. WFDY participated at the United Nations General Assembly to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year. WFDY had the honour to deliver a speech.

In June 1995 WFDY organized a seminar, in cooperation with WFDY membership in Asia, in Nepal from 28 May to 2 June 1995 to celebrate the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year; 15 organizations participated.

WFDY participated in the special session on the General Assembly on the Earth Summit, 23-27 June 1997.

WFDY continues to maintain its office in Geneva, following very closely the activities and work of the Commission on Human Rights and contributing actively and constructively to its work.

The WFDY Coordinating Council meeting in July 1995 in Budapest discussed and evaluated the report of WFDY's work with the United Nations system, including UNESCO; 25 organizations participated.

WFDY has developed its relationship with the European Commission on the issues of education and training youth. As a consequence, WFDY's activities have been financed partially by the European Commission.

WFDY participated in the meeting organized by the Organization of African Unity on the theme of "Youth and development" in March 1996.

Activities organized by WFDY

WFDY organized an international youth observer team in April 1994 to monitor the first non-racial election in South Africa.

WFDY undertook a fact-finding mission to Western Sahara (19-29 March 1995).

WFDY, in cooperation with the Council of Europe and Cypriot youth organizations, organized, in the framework of the European Union campaign "All Different All Equal", an International Camp against Fascism, Racism and Xenophobia, 7-15 September 1995, Larnaca, Cyprus.

The General Council meeting in South Africa (1-5 October 1995) was devoted to the post-apartheid youth problem in South Africa.

The International Camp against Fascism, Racism and Xenophobia was held from 14 to 17 December 1995 in Madrid.

A Seminar on neo-liberalism in Latin America and its consequences on education was held from 12 to 14 June 1996 in Brasilia.

WFDY sponsored a solidarity with Western Sahara event on 10 October 1996.

WFDY undertook International Peace Caravans to the Sudan in December 1996.

An International Seminar on the Promotion of Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific Region was held on 7 December 1996 in Calcutta.

WFDY celebrated its fifteenth anniversary in London (13-14 May 1997).

WFDY held an international youth event for solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in April 1997.

Some 12,500 young people from 132 countries took part in the fourteenth World Festival of Youth and Students, July 1997.

WFDY convened an event entitled "Life and rights of young people in Maastricht's Europe" in Paris on 5 and 6 April 1997.

The Workshop on Religious Fundamentalism (Cairo, 6-7 March) discussed extremism; 40 young people from Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe took part in the meeting.

Apart from a delegation of WFDY, 20 WFDY member organizations participated in the third World Youth Forum in Braga, Portugal, in August 1998.

The Festival for Peace and Stability in the Balkan Region was held from 14 to 17 September 1998 in Athens. The festival comprised a variety of activities, including workshops, round tables, discussions and rallies, focusing on peace and security in the Balkans.

The Second International Peace Caravan to the Sudan was successfully held from 12 to 20 December 1998, comprised of different Sudanese women, youth groups and all political parties as well as international, regional and national NGOs.

10. World Society of Victimology

(Special consultative status granted in 1982)

Brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization

The World Society of Victimology (WSV) has as its purpose to advance victimological research and practices throughout the world by various means like the triennial International Symposium on Victimology, publications, seminars, international networking of victimologists and facilitating international, national, regional, and local cooperation to promote the welfare of victims throughout the entire world.

In the reporting period the World Society increased its membership considerably and now has representation in Angola, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Romania, Scotland, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Suriname, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. The number of members from Australia, South Africa and East Asia has grown considerably. This is due to the growing awareness of victims' rights in these countries and to conscientious promoting of the cause in these regions on the part of the Society.

The reporting period has seen growth in national and regional societies of victimology in Argentina, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Croatia, Greece, Indonesia, Serbia, Spain and in Asia.

There are no substantial changes in the sources of funding; WSV finances its activities exclusively from membership contributions.

There are no formal affiliations with other NGOs in consultative status except that WSV is regularly represented at the Board of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (ISPAC). For ISPAC, WSV members contributed to the 1999 paper "Restorative justice", which was officially submitted to the Centre for International Crime Prevention in Vienna.

WSV cooperated with the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, the Centre for International Crime Prevention

(CICP), attended the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at the sessions of the International Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna, and was active at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. It concentrated on working actively in the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice expert group on victims of crime and abuse of power in the international setting held from 18 to 22 December 1995 in Vienna and at subsequent meetings in the United States and the Netherlands and was involved in drafting the implementation manual for the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, adopted in 1985 by General Assembly resolution 40/34. The Declaration was in the 1980s the main success of the World Society of Victimology. It had been drafted first within the World Society by Irvin Waller (Canada) and LeRoy Lamborn (United States).

The Secretary-General issued a statement on restorative justice and on victims in the International Court of Justice in February 1997 as a contribution to the special issue of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice newsletter (May 1997). He was involved in the deliberations to prepare Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/28 on firearm regulation for purposes of crime prevention and public health and safety and in the deliberations which led to Council resolution 1997/31 on victims of crime and abuse of power.

WSV was involved in the preparations for the *Guide for Policy Makers on the Implementation of the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power* and for the *United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims*.

WSV and its Secretary-General were involved in the work of the subcommittee studying the effects of traumatic stress on victims of crime under a joint project of the United Nations and the International Society on Traumatic Stress Studies.

WSV delegations at the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights during the reporting period have been directed by Syed Nazir Gilani and Marie-Pierre de Liege of the Arab World Institute.

WSV held two big international symposia on victimology in the reporting period, one in Amsterdam and one in Montreal. Both symposia discussed the role of the United Nations and the relevance of the United Nations Declaration on Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power. In Montreal, WSV celebrated a whole-day symposium for the fifteenth anniversary of the Declaration with 1,300 participants, including high-ranking officials from the United Nations and several ministers of justice from different countries.

A very important role in disseminating detailed knowledge about the Declaration, the *Guide for Policy Makers* and the *United Nations Handbook on Justice for Victims* were the main activities of WSV besides the triennial symposia. WSV conducted international post-graduate courses on victimology, victim assistance and criminal justice. In every year of the reporting period these bi-weekly seminars were conducted at the Inter-University Centre of Dubrovnik, bringing together every year about 30 students from different nations and about 25 professors, including the members of the Executive Committee of WSV. Since 1998, the Asian Post-Graduate Courses in Victimology and Victim Assistance have been organized at Tokiwa University in Mito, Japan. In total, about 160 post-graduate

students have become familiar with the details of the Declaration and have spread and will spread this knowledge as multipliers in their respective countries, a contribution to the dissemination and implementation of the Declaration worldwide.

As a last point of describing the relationships of WSV to the United Nations it should be mentioned that WSV could not keep its President in that position because he became the Principal Officer of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, at the United Nations Office at Vienna.

At various levels and on various occasions, WSV has cooperated with the United Nations bodies mentioned in this report and WSV is determined to continue this good cooperation in the future.

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Addendum

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1. All-China Women's Federation

Introductory statement

Aims/purposes. Founded on 3 April 1949, the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) is the largest women's non-governmental organization (NGO) in China. It unites women of all ethnic groups in all walks of life and works for their advancement. The aim of ACWF is to safeguard women's rights and interests and to promote equality between men and women.

Organizational network. The organizational system of ACWF involves setting up local women's federations and taking group members. Local women's federations are set up according to the State's administrative divisions (at the national, city, county and township levels). Across the country, there are over 800,000 local women's federations and more than 200,000 women's groups/associations affiliated with ACWF.

Affiliation with international organizations. ACWF was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in June 1995. It joined the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) in September 1996. In October 1997, it became a member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (New York) under CONGO.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

ACWF has participated in the following meetings:

(a) 30 August-8 September 1995, the NGO Forum on Women '95. The organization had worked with the Facilitating Committee of the NGO Forum on Women '95 as one of its members in preparation for the Forum.

(b) 4-15 September 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing).

(c) 11-22 March 1996, the fortieth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and the NGO Consultation (New York).

(d) 18 March-26 April 1996, the fifty-second session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (Geneva).

(e) 3-14 June 1996, the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the NGO Forum (Istanbul).

(f) 10-21 March 1997, the forty-first session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and the NGO Consultation (New York).

(g) 10 March-18 April 1997, the fifty-third session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and made statements on United Nations reform (Geneva).

(h) 23-27 June 1997, Earth Summit+5 (New York).

(i) 24-28 August 1997, the 10th World Conference on Tobacco or Health (Beijing) at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

(j) 3-5 November 1997, the 20th General Assembly of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (Geneva).

(k) 1-12 March 1998, the forty-second session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and the NGO Forum (New York).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

ACWF has cooperated with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies as follows:

(a) On a number of occasions, ACWF has provided information at the invitation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In September 1998, it held a discussion with Mary Robinson, the High Commissioner, while she was visiting China.

(b) Since 1997, ACWF has undertaken programmes on gender awareness, women in development and re-employment of laid-off women workers in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

(c) Cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for the improvement of the status of girls has been ongoing since 1982. Since 1990, programmes for women in development have been introduced and have been part of their cooperation. Since 1982, ACWF has sent representatives to the Executive Board meetings of UNICEF every year at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

(d) In cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), it ran training programmes for women entrepreneurs from 1994 to 1998.

(e) ACWF exchanged information with United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) on gender awareness and held talks with Norleen Hayzer, Executive Director of UNIFEM, while she was visiting China.

(f) ACWF made recommendations on the report of the Chinese Government on its implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Other relevant activities

In implementation of United Nations resolutions, ACWF has taken action as follows:

(a) ACWF mapped out the Women's Action Series at the end of 1995 for the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. The main goals are to help 1 million rural women out of poverty, 1 million urban laid-off women workers to find jobs, and 15 million rural illiterate women to become literate, to provide women with training, to promote women's participation in decision-making and management and to promote equality between women and men in society and at home;

(b) To implement Agenda 21, formulated at the Earth Summit, ACWF and the China State Environmental Protection Administration initiated the "Women, Environment and Homeland" programme in 1997 and compiled and circulated

190,000 booklets on environmental protection. It has been mobilizing women to participate in tree-planting and environmental protection through its "March 8th Greening Campaign". The campaign was launched in 1989 and has been carried out throughout the country since then;

(c) For the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, ACWF has been working to disseminate knowledge about maternity and children's health care and planned parenthood in both rural and urban areas in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Health. It provided rural women with education and information regarding population and health;

(d) As a follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, ACWF has provided vocational training and employment guidance to laid-off urban female workers and unemployed women, expanding job opportunities for women. In rural areas, it developed women's production bases for planting, raising and handicrafts-making, etc. Poverty-alleviation and income-generating activities are organized for women.

In June 1998, ACWF organized a seminar on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, aiming to further promote the implementation of the Platform for Action. Present at the seminar were over 200 representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations from 28 countries, 2 regional organizations and 5 international organizations and United Nations agencies in China. Participants shared experiences and major measures of implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, identified existing major difficulties/problems and discussed further initiatives.

In October 1998, ACWF and the European Union co-sponsored the Sino-European Union Seminar on Women's Rights in Beijing. There were over 120 participants, coming from China and the 15 States of the European Union.

ACWF actively engages itself in bilateral and multilateral activities of NGOs. It works hard to air women's views and wishes on as many occasions as possible and to strengthen contacts, solidarity and friendly cooperation with NGOs.

ACWF maintains close contact with the Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and has sent representatives to many Asia-Pacific regional conferences, such as those on poverty, information management and trafficking of women.

2. Association for the Advancement of Psychological Understanding of Human Nature

1. The Association is a non-profit interdisciplinary organization with nine member organizations and about 700 individual members working on an international level. It is the Association's primary aim to promote psychological understanding of human nature and international scientific exchange in psychological, pedagogical, educational, social-ethical and health matters, in drug and human immunodeficiency virus prevention. The Association seeks to contribute its knowledge and experience to those areas of policy-making with which it is concerned, such as health matters, school policy and education. The Association is

committed to bringing about drug demand-reduction by assisting young people to pursue constructive aims in life in order to enable them to contribute positively towards society. On the basis of its experience, scientific knowledge and interdisciplinary cooperation, it develops programmes, analyses and solutions, provides practical assistance and advice in the above-mentioned fields, runs seminars and in-service training courses, hosts conferences and maintains a scientific documentation centre.

2. A representative of the Association attended the following meetings:

(a) Twentieth special session of the General Assembly, 8-10 June 1998;

(b) Commission on Narcotic Drugs, thirty-ninth session, Vienna, 16-25 April 1996, fortieth session, Vienna, 18-25 March 1997, preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly, 25-26 March 1997, reconvened fortieth session, Vienna, 3-4 December 1997, Inter-sessional meetings in December 1997, forty-first session, Vienna, 11-13 March 1998, preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly, 16-20 March 1998;

(c) Oral statements at the following sessions: thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna, 16-25 April 1996 on heroin distribution in Switzerland, fortieth session of the Commission, Vienna, 18-25 March 1997, on heroin distribution in Switzerland. The Association was invited to attend the following meetings: thirty-ninth session of the Commission, 1996, fortieth session of the Commission, 1997. Reconvened fortieth session of the Commission, 1997. Inter-sessional meetings of the Commission, acting as preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly (7-9 July, 7-9 October and 5 December 1997). Intergovernmental working group to review and advance work on the draft declaration of the guiding principles of reduction of illicit demand on drugs, Vienna 13-17 October 1997. Forty-first session of the Commission, March 1998;

(d) United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child: tenth session, Geneva, 31 October-14 November 1995; twelfth session, 28 May 1996; fourteenth session, 20 January 1997; fifth session, 21-30 May 1997; sixteenth session, 24 September-1 October 1997;

(e) Third session of the Commission on Human Rights Inter-sessional open-ended working group on a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on involvement of children in armed conflicts, Geneva, 20 January 1997; Commission on the Status of Women, forty-first session, New York, 10-21 March 1997; forty-second session, New York, 2-13 March 1998; United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 30 May-14 June 1996; Commission on Human Rights, fifty-third session, Geneva, 10 March-18 April 1997; fifty-fourth session, 16 March-24 April 1998; twentieth General Assembly of CONGO, Geneva, 3-5 November 1997, Meeting of the Board of CONGO, Geneva, 25-26 June 1998.

3. The Association has cooperated with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, such as the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP). The Association sent a letter to Mr. Ivan Mora Godoy, Chairman-Rapporteur of the Inter-sessional open-ended working group for the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the sale of children, child prostitution and

child pornography of the Commission on Human Rights, statement on the draft optional protocol, Geneva, 18 April 1998.

4. In implementation of United Nations resolutions, the Association has taken action as follows:

(a) *Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971; the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Demand Reduction; the United Nations Decade Against Drug Abuse, 1991-2000, Political Declaration and Global Plan of Action.* The Second International Symposium Against Drugs in Switzerland — Overcoming Addiction. Effective Drug and HIV Prevention, 12-13 April 1997, Zofingen, Switzerland, in cooperation with AIDS Information Switzerland and other NGOs. Planning and organization of the First International Context: Creativity for a Youth Without Drugs, including, among others, The "Third Way" — Multiple Strategy of the United Nations. Youth Without Drugs: By launching a campaign to collect signatures and by preparing a vote, it was possible to make the aims, conventions and work of UNDCP and INCB known to a wider public. The content of the Federal initiative represents a successful synthesis of the existing Federal Narcotics Law and the Vienna Convention of 1988. On the United Nations International Day Against Drugs in 1995, 1996, 1997, the aims and activities of UNDCP and INCB were presented. A number of articles were published in "Zeit-Fragen", as were regular reviews of the INCB annual report press releases of INCB. A number of articles were published on the aims and activities of UNDCP as well as on the importance of the various conventions on the drug problem in the student journal of the Students' Forum (SFU) at the University of Zurich. Lectures on the importance of the United Nations conventions on drugs were delivered to the members of the Association, and lectures were delivered by members of the Association at public meetings and at meetings of other NGOs. In-service training was provided for teachers, medical doctors, students, psychologists, educators and parents in the provisions of the above-mentioned conventions and resolutions (seminars, teacher-training week, summer and winter conferences);

(b) *Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 16 December 1966, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966:*

(i) Planning and organization of the international creative contest "50 Years of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights" for children and young people. Contribution to the contest of the International Society for Human Rights (IGFM), Bern. Exhibition at a summer conference in 1998 on "50 Years of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights";

(ii) On the occasion of the "Courage to take a moral stance" conferences in 1997 and 1998, Margret Ogola, MD, Executive Director, Family Life Counselling, Kenya, presented a paper on "The dignity of man and the social question". Promoting African culture through techniques of African mothers for an education towards the common good. Two mothers represented the organizations of Prisoners Rehabilitation and Welfare Action (PRAWA) from Lagos, Nigeria, and the Association Fighting Violence Against Women (ALVF) from Cameroon. Supporting initiatives for peace and democracy in

Africa (1998): preparation of teacher training courses in federalist democracy based on the Swiss model, which would enable peaceful coexistence of different peoples and ethnic groups in the region of the African Great Lakes. Planning of the meeting to promote a realistic idea of civil society in the region of the African Great Lakes, which was organized in Italy in 1999 by the Great Lakes Forum and the Collectif d'action pour le développement des droits de l'homme (CADDHOM). Support for constructing civil society in the region of the African Great Lakes (Congo/Zaire, Rwanda) by the Great Lakes Forum and CADDHOM;

(iii) Protection and assistance of the family in accordance with article 10 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and article 23 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Organization of annual family vacations in Savognin, Switzerland. Parent counselling through members of the Association. Working out an educational concept for teachers and parents to prevent violence. Developing an educational-didactic programme in the school of the Association to deal with problems of discrimination with regard to the Balkans conflict. Working out a concept for peace education with teachers and parents. Seminars, corresponding publications and various articles in "Zeit-Fragen". Seminar on democracy and the "Swiss model";

(iv) A member of the board presented a paper at the International Seminar on Education for Human Rights and Citizenship in Central and Eastern Europe: Teaching Means, Teaching Aids and Methodology of Education, 4-7 April 1995, Pruhonice (Czech Republic) on the psychological and pedagogical aspects of education for tolerance, mutual cooperation, personal responsibility and legal consciousness. A member of the board published an article on article 10 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and articles 23 and 18.4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in *Insight* 1998. In-service training of teachers, medical doctors, students, psychologists, pedagogues and parents in the provisions of the above-mentioned conventions and resolutions and in human rights education, in accordance with the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2005) and General Assembly resolution 49/184 of 23 December 1994 (seminars, teacher-training week, summer and winter conferences);

(c) *The Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989*:

(i) A member of the board presented papers on child protection at the Conference "Courage to take a moral stance", Feldkirch (Austria), September 1998, and in Hamburg (Germany), May 1998. She attended the Closing Conference of the Childhood Policies Project: "Children's Rights and Childhood Policies in Europe — New Approaches?", Leipzig, Germany, 1996, Council of Europe. She attended the Second International Interdisciplinary Course on Children's Rights, University of Gent (Belgium), 1997;

(ii) Jiri Kovarik, PhD, a member of the Board of the Czechoslovak National Committee for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), held a seminar on children deprived of their family environment (art. 20) and children belonging to a minority or an indigenous group (Roma) (art. 30) in the Czech Republic, Zurich, 7-8 June 1996. Manfred Paulus, Chief Detective Superintendent, Ulm (Germany), presented a paper: "'Gruenkram' Child

Abuse in Europe — Present Situation and Prevention", Conference on the "Courage to take a moral stance", Feldkirch (Austria), September 1998 (art. 34, 35). Support for children in armed conflict (art. 38) including physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration (art. 39): various articles and press reports in "Zeit-Fragen" by and on Olaro Otunnu, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, various publications and conference papers at the conference on the "Courage to take a moral stance" and teacher-training weeks on preventing violence, presentation by Esma Cemerlic-Zezevic, MD, Director of a children's hospital in Sarajevo (Bosnia), Zurich, April 1998, supporting the children's hospital with medicine, etc.;

(iii) Promotion of parent counselling in accordance with articles 2, 3, 5, 6, 12 of the Convention (consideration of the views of the child), 29 (aims of education). Seminars on developmental psychology attachment theory as a necessary means of ensuring the development of the child, including physical, mental, spiritual, moral, psychological and social development (art. 6). Bonding provides protection against threats to the child's development, including sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (art. 34);

(iv) Education towards democracy is also included. Thus, the Association organized a conference in 1995 on education towards responsible citizens: "Ethics in Education — Education Towards Democracy". It is only when a child is firmly rooted in his first social unit, the family, that he can develop that sense of belonging and responsibility towards others and the wider community which are the essence of democratic life;

(v) Kindergarten Kinkelstrasse for children of working parents (art. 18.3) receives financial support. Private school Toblerstrasse is run in accordance with the spirit of article 29 of the Convention (aims of education), implementation of drug prevention (art. 33), health education and AIDS information (art. 24). Children learn to express their views (art. 12). Children's recreational activities (art. 31) are promoted, in school and during the family holidays in Savognin, Switzerland, by contributing to artistic contests for human rights, drug prevention, etc.;

(vi) In-service training of teachers, medical doctors, students, psychologists, educators, parents in the provisions of the convention (seminars, teacher-training week, summer and winter conferences);

(vii) AIDS: support of HIV prevention according to UNAIDS principles and the Economic and Social Council Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS 1997. In-service training of medical doctors, teachers in HIV prevention. Relevant publications, conferences.

5. The Association has had contact with United Nations officials: Chief, New York Office, UNDCP; Secretary of the INCB, Vienna; NGO-Liaison Officer, Vienna; Officials of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna; Executive Director of UNDCP; officials of the NGO-section, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, New York; NGO-Liaison Officer, Geneva; Programme Officer, UNDCP, Vienna; secretariat of the Economic and Social Council, New York.

3. Indian Council of Education

I. Introduction

The organization in the last four years has continued its activities in the field of education, social development and human rights, in various parts of the world. As the head office of the organization is located in India and majority of its individual and organizational members are residents of India, its activities are predominantly focused on the Indian Sub-continent in the field of drug-deaddiction and control; education, including adult education; literacy and population education; social development, including poverty alleviation programmes; promotion and protection of human rights for the weaker sections of society, including women, children, HIV/AIDS victims, industrial workers; environmental issues; peace and disarmament and advancement of science and technology.

The organization's geographical membership during the last four years has been increasing. In Asia, 1 NGO and 1 individual from Bangladesh, 2 NGOs from Nepal and 3 NGOs and 25 individuals from India were added. In Africa, 3 individuals were added from South Africa. In America, 2 individuals were added from the United States of America. In Europe, 1 individual from the United Kingdom, 3 individuals from the Russian Federation, 1 from Switzerland, 1 from France and 1 from Italy were added. The organization through its educational and developmental activities is making an exemplary contribution in the dissemination of United Nations ideals, programmes and information in different parts of the world, particularly in India and other developing countries. The organization is actively working in collaboration with United Nations agencies such as UNDCP, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Commission on Human Rights.

II. UNDCP demonstration project (1997-1998)

The organization, being a specialized NGO in the field of drug-demand reduction, completed a UNDCP project on drug-abuse awareness and preventive education for criminal addicts in a jail in India. The relationship between drug abuse and criminality is well established and it was observed that the incidence of drug abuse was increasing even in a close system like prison. The project aimed at making the prison system drug-free by introducing the Drug-Abuse Awareness and Preventive Education Centre for Criminal Addicts in Jail. The objectives of the project were achieved by starting a comprehensive awareness generation programme, a vocational training programme and a counselling programme for the inmates and staff of the prison supported by a follow-up, aftercare and rehabilitation programme. The project was partially funded by the UNDCP regional office in New Delhi.

III. ILO Developing Community Drug Rehabilitation and Workplace Prevention Programme (1998)

The organization participated in ILO Workplace Drug-abuse Prevention Programme in India in 1998. This project was initiated by ILO in collaboration with UNDCP, the Government of India and specialized NGOs. The organization was

involved in a deaddiction, community awareness and prevention programme at Modi Rubber Ltd., Modipuram, U.P. India.

IV. International seminar on drug-trafficking, terrorism and human rights (1997)

The organization organized a two-day international Seminar on Drug-Trafficking, Terrorism and Human Rights on 20 and 21 September 1999. The participants of the seminar expressed that there could be no compromise with drug-trafficking, criminals and terrorists, who pose a threat to the very fabric of the society. Taking note of linkages between drug trafficking and terrorism the Declaration of this international seminar called upon all the States to become parties to international conventions relating to various aspects of international terrorism. The Seminar called upon the United Nations system to recognize the role of NGOs with their ability to activate a wider civil society and all its components in dealing with drug-abuse, terrorism and controlling trafficking.

V. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and conferences/meetings of the United Nations 1995-1998

(A) Participation in the Commission on Human Rights

Name of the meeting	*Dates*	*Place*	*Subject on oral written statements*
(1) Fifty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights	Mar.-Apr. 1995	Geneva	Right to development, women, child, specific violations of human rights and other important agenda item on disability, HIV/AIDS, etc.
(2) Fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights	Mar.-Apr. 1996	Geneva	-do-
(3) Fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights	Mar.-Apr. 1997	Geneva	-do-
(4) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights	Mar.-Apr. 1998	Geneva	-do-
(5) Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights	Mar.-Apr. 1999	Geneva	-do-

(B) Participation in Sub-Commission of the Commission on Human Rights on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

S. No.	*Name of the meeting*	*Dates*	*Place*	*Subject on oral written statements*
1.	Forty-eighth session of the Sub-Commission	5-30 Aug. 1996	Geneva	On various agenda items of the meeting, including minorities, child, women, right to development, etc.
2.	Forty-ninth session of the Sub-Commission	4-29 Aug. 1997	Geneva	-do-
3.	Fiftieth session of the Sub-Commission	3-28 Aug. 1998	Geneva	-do-
4.	Fifty-first session of the Sub-Commission	2-27 Aug. 1999	Geneva	-do-

(C) Participation in the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations meetings

S. No.	*Name of the meeting*	*Dates*	*Place*	*Subject on oral written statements*
1.	Regional Training Programme on Addiction Rehabilitation Organized by UNDCP and the International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse	March 1995	Malaysia	Training programme
2.	Economic and Social Council session	June-July 1996	New York	Substantive session
3.	Fifty-fifth annual NGO conference organized by the Department of Public Information	10-12 Sept. 1997	New York	Annual session
4.	ILO/UNDCP Conference on Drugs in Workplace	3-6 Oct. 1998	Malaysia	Paper on workplace drug prevention

VI. Meetings, seminars and conferences

Year 1995

National Seminar on "Women's rights are human rights" organized from 6 to 8 March in Lucknow University, Lucknow U.P. (India) to celebrate International Women's Day;

Discussion meeting to celebrate United Nations Day on 24 October 1995 for the school children of Calcutta

National workshop for key functionaries of adult education, organized in November 1995 in Department of Social Work, Lucknow University, U.P. (India)

World AIDS Day celebration in Bombay on 1 December 1995. A rally was organized in the red light area of the city

Year 1996

Human Rights Education in 21st Century — A lunch-time meeting organized at United Nations Geneva on 20 August 1996

International Day Against Drug-abuse and Illicit Trafficking Celebrations — Public meeting in New Delhi on 26 June 1996

National Seminar on Family Counselling in India at Institute of Social Science, Agra U.P. in September 1996

Year 1997

NGO Seminar on Democracy and Human Rights on 25 March 1997 at United Nations Palais des Nations, Geneva

NGO Seminar on Peace, Security and Human Rights on 20 August 1997 at United Nations Palais des Nations, Geneva

International Seminar on Drug Trafficking, Terrorism and Human Rights in New Delhi, India, 20-21 November 1997

ILO on Job Training Programme on Developing Community Drug Rehabilitation Programme in New Delhi (India), 18-30 August 1997

Celebration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking in New Delhi, 20-26 June 1997

Year 1998

Fiftieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights a discussion meeting in Patna on 18 November 1998

NGO Seminar on Sanctions and Human Rights on 18 August 1998 at Palais des Nations, Geneva

International Seminar on Human Rights Education, Lucknow University U.P. (India) on 12-14 February 1998

Castism in India, a discussion meeting on 10 May 1998 at Vishwa Bharti University, Calcutta (India)

VII. Research projects/publications

1. Research project on A Study of Vocational Problems faced by Scheduled Castes Girls in Uttarpradesh. This study was conducted for Ministry of Welfare, Government of India (1955)
2. Psychodynamics of Drug-Abuse (Prevention) by Dr. (Mrs.) Pramila Srivastava (1997)
3. Drug Trafficking, Terrorism and Human Rights — Report of the International Seminar (1998)

The organization is regularly publishing a monthly newsletter and a quarterly journal entitled *Indian Education Digest*. The following special issues were brought out by the organization.

Indian Education Digest
Special Issue on Youth and Drug-Abuse

VIII. Consultative and substantive activities

The organization keeps liaison with the United Nations Secretariat and its subsidiary agencies. The organization had two meetings with the High Commissioner on Human Rights in Geneva and discussed various issues of specific human rights violations. The organization, during the Commission and Sub-Commission meetings in Geneva, organized a number of NGOs' briefings and seminars on a variety of issues related to human rights violations. The organization also organized special meetings with United Nations human rights experts, special rapporteurs and chairmen of the working groups. The organization makes special efforts to convince States to implement various United Nations resolutions at the national, regional and international levels. The declarations and resolutions of different conferences/seminars organized by the organization are being sent to national Governments, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the United Nations for consideration. The organization is continuously in touch with United Nations agencies like ILO, UNDCP, World Health Organization, Commission on Human Rights and the Department of Public Information. Some of the organization's programmes were sponsored by these United Nations agencies during the four years under review.

4. Inter-American Federation of Touring and Automobile Clubs (FITAC)

Objectives

To promote tourism, motoring, better road safety, environment and to guarantee the relationship between participating clubs.

Services

We provide international documents, such as: international driver's licences, customs books, international motoring certificates, international presentation licences, safety identification stamps and international maps. Furthermore, we provide information, inter alia, about the mutual services offered by the member clubs and road conditions throughout the Americas. We believe in a constant search for the best help and the best solutions for motorists in member nations.

Relevant facts

The administration and management of the Federación Interamericana de Touring y Automóvil Clubes (FITAC) is the responsibility of the Assembly (the

highest authority, which meets every three years), the Board of Directors, which is responsible for ensuring that statutes and regulations are observed and which meets once a year, and the Executive Committee, which acts on behalf of the Board of Directors and holds periodic meetings.

We would like to mention the following achievements:

(a) The creation of the first distinctly American customs document, the Customs Transit Card, which greatly facilitates automobile travel throughout the continent;

(b) FITAC has promoted the earliest possible completion of the Pan-American Highway System and the installation of roadside auxiliary services (gas stations and convenience facilities, public lavatories, hotels, motels, etc.);

(c) FITAC has promoted uniformity of legal regimes for transit and signage systems in the Americas. As a result of its efforts and advocacy, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay changed from left-hand drive to right-hand drive, resulting in uniform drive throughout the continent;

(d) FITAC has negotiated the signing of bilateral agreements and continental conventions to facilitate exchanges by eliminating such obstacles as visas, immigration regulations and entry or exit permits;

(e) FITAC has worked continuously in favour of the earliest possible signing and/or ratification by all the countries in the hemisphere of the Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automobile Traffic, the adoption of the International Automobile Registration Certificate and the international driving licence;

(f) FITAC has organized automotive sporting competitions as a way to promote the use of the highways making up the Pan-American System;

(g) It has endeavoured to coordinate customs operations in order to avoid difficulties and delays in inter-American traffic;

(h) In harmony with its aim of promoting inter-American travel, the development of which will undoubtedly foster friendship among peoples through mutual knowledge and cultural and economic exchanges, FITAC has organized and sponsored the production of the greatest possible amount of information on roads and tourism.

Since 1995 we have attended the following meetings/conferences:

(a) Visit to the Automóvil Club do Brazil, on 22 March 1995 by the President who met with Dr. Gilberto de Povina Cavalcanti (President) and other members. Closer contact with this Club was attained;

(b) Meeting with the Executive Committee in Buenos Aires on 7 April 1995, presided over by the undersigned and with the attendance of the Secretary-Treasurer, and also Dr. César C. Carman, President of the Automóvil Club Argentino (ACA) and Dr. Juan M. Lissarrague, Legal Counsel. Important subjects were discussed at this meeting, such as the Customs Transit Card and FITAC's consultative status with the United Nations;

(c) Participation in the General Meeting of the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (AIT), held in Quito in May 1995, through the members of the Board of

Directors of the Touring y Automóvil Club Paraguayo: Victor R. Dumot, César Abente Saralegui and Fernando Castagnino;

(d) Participation in the first Pan American Forum, held in Miami, United States of America, from 7 to 9 June 1995, through the Touring y Automóvil Club Paraguayo, which was represented by Eng. Victor R. Dumot and Mr. César Abente Saralegui;

(e) The meeting of the Board of Directors, held on 18 and 19 September 1995 in Caracas;

(f) Participation in the First Managers' Meeting of American Touring and Automobile Clubs, sponsored by the Automóvil Club de Chile, held on 23 and 24 November 1995, in Santiago, attended by Mr. Fernando Ugarriza, member of the Board of Directors of the Touring y Automóvil Club Paraguayo;

(g) During the present year, the meeting of the Executive Committee and of the Board of Directors will be held in Costa Rica in October.

Finally, as noteworthy achievements concerning extending service facilities and defending the interests of motorists, we would like to mention the following:

(a) The exchange of information on the services provided by each club to its members, which are also provided to all members of the various clubs forming FITAC;

(b) The project to form an insurance company having FITAC members, as well as another specialized institution, as shareholders. For this purpose, experience on this subject is being shared by the associates, and this project is expected to materialize in the near future;

(c) The project to organize a tourism wholesale company, also having FITAC members as shareholders, with the purpose of facilitating travel through the different countries at a lower cost and providing the support that tourism in the American continent needs;

(d) Compilation of services provided by member clubs for tourists to assist them in organizing their trips;

(e) The obligation to use FITAC stamps (established at the last meeting of the Board of Directors, held in Caracas, Venezuela, during 1995) in all international documents issued by any of the member entities. This resolution went into effect as of 1 January 1996. Besides representing assistance for the Federation, it also enhances the FITAC presence in the continent;

(f) The sale of maps of member countries (at our secretariat in Buenos Aires) which kindly provide this material, as well as maps of other countries of the world. This service is highly appreciated by our associates and the general public, and in this manner we are making a contribution to tourism and promotion, especially in the countries of the Americas.

5. International Centre of Sociological, Penal and Penitentiary Research and Studies (Intercenter-Messina)

Year in which Consultative Status was granted: 1987

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The fundamental purpose of the International Centre of Sociological, Penal and Penitentiary Research and Studies (Intercenter) is to study the different forms of criminality which may compromise democratic society and threaten our fundamental institutions.

Bearing in mind that sociological, penal and penitentiary components are inseparable for a comprehensive study of criminal phenomena, Intercenter's statute states that research, progress and development factors, as well as studies made by Intercenter must be carried out using multidisciplinary methods.

Although Intercenter considers it indispensable to maintain a high cultural and scientific standard — guaranteed by the distinguished members of its Scientific Committee who come from different countries all over the world — it does not intend to limit its energies to the advancement of knowledge alone, but wishes also to contribute to an in-depth analysis of the numerous aspects of developing and developed countries which have been brought to light by sociological and ancillary disciplinary studies. Intercenter thus aims at offering research workers, scholars and persons responsible for national and international decisions, the possibility of broadening their own specific knowledge through technical and other facilities available.

Intercenter, in fact, intends to study, through careful research, the problems of the world today and to cooperate towards their resolution. Intercenter also intends to give further study to the concepts and contents of human rights within the various countries throughout the world and contribute towards the research for methods and means by which these rights should be fully acknowledged and respected.

In accordance with its statute, Intercenter contributes to assisting national and international experts in the various disciplines to improve their knowledge of new techniques in allied fields. To this end, Intercenter organizes short relevant specialized courses.

Finally, Intercenter can offer qualified advice to governmental and non-governmental bodies and to national and international institutions and organizations.

Intercenter is a non-profit organization. It is financed by contributions from the Sicilian Regional Administration, local bodies and institutions instrumental in its foundation, subscriptions from members and other private and public bodies and other donations and contributions and subsidies for its activities.

Scientific sections: Argentina (1. Fundación Convivir, Buenos Aires; 2. Centro de Estudios Criminológicos, Policiales y Penitenciarios, Rosario); Australia (Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra); Belgium (Centre National de Criminologie, Bruxelles); Cameroon (1. Association Camerounaise pour le Développement Social, Yaoundé; 2. Volunteers for Prison Inmates, Mbengwi); Canada (1. Department of Criminology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby —

Vancouver; 2. Faculté de Droit, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke — Montréal); Colombia (Escuela Judicial "Bonilla", Bogotá); Egypt (Police Center — Police Academy; Abbassia — Cairo); France (Institut de Criminologie, Université de Paris Panthéon Assas II, Paris); India (Department of Psychology, Barkatullah University; Bhopal); Ivory Coast (Institut de Criminologie, Université National de Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan); Japan (Faculty of International Relations, Asia University, Tokyo); Mauritius (Prison Headquarters (Beau Bassin)); Portugal (Escola de Policia Judiciária; Barro-Lourdes); People's Republic of China (Public Security Ministry, Beijing); Russia (Research Institute for Legality Strengthening and Law Order, Moscow); Senegal (Institut des Droits de l'Homme et de la Paix, Dakar); Spain (Facultad de Derecho, Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid); United Kingdom (Institute for the Study and Treatment of Delinquency — King's College, London); United States of America (Sam Houston State University, Huntsville).

B. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

- Conference on "The role and functions of civilian police in peacekeeping operations: the briefing and lessons" (11-13 December 1995, Singapore).
- Seventh session of the annual UNESCO meeting of the Human Rights Institutes Directors (18-19 January 1996, Paris).
- Fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (April 1996, Vienna).
- Eighth session of the annual UNESCO meeting of the Human Rights Institutes Directors (6-7 March 1997, Paris).
- Sixth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (28 April-9 May 1997, Vienna).
- UNESCO International Government Expert Consultation on "Human Being Right to Peace" (5-9 March 1998, Paris).
- Ninth session of the annual UNESCO meeting of the Human Rights Institutes Directors (19-20 March 1998, Paris).
- Seventh session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (21-30 April 1998, Vienna).

C. Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

- "**Technology, police and respect for private life**" (10-19 October 1995, Taormina, Italy). This International Course for Higher Specialization for Police Forces was organized jointly by Intercenter and the Italian Ministry of the Interior. The United Nations was officially represented by Ms. Nassrine Azimi, Deputy to the Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Geneva.

- Meeting on "**The responsibilities of the Present Generations towards Future Generations**" (19-20 July 1996, Taormina). This conference was organized in cooperation with the Division of Human Rights, Democracy and Peace of UNESCO.

- International Workshop on "**Human rights at the dawn of the third millennium: universality and inter-cultural dialogue**" (20-22 November 1998, Rome). This international workshop — which obtained the patronage of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and of the Director-General of UNESCO — celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

6. International Forum for Child Welfare

Vision statement: We envision a world in which all children fully experience their rights as defined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Mission statement: The mission of the International Forum for Child Welfare (IFCW) is to promote the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. To accomplish this mission, we will identify major children's issues and engage the attention and influence the actions of key stakeholders. We will seek to build the capacity of organizations in the child welfare sector through improved self-management and adoption of best practices. We will encourage the participation of children whenever possible.

Introduction: IFCW is an international non-governmental, non-sectarian umbrella organization founded in 1989 and composed of over 120 child welfare organizations, many of which are also national umbrella organizations.

IFCW programmes: The annual WorldForum is the centrepiece of IFCW programmes. It brings together leadership from member and non-member organizations and is held in a different region of the world each year.

The Executive Institute on Organizational and Leadership Development is designed as a seminar-type activity on leadership, management and organizational development to strengthen the member organizations.

IFCW has created Regional Forums on Child Welfare in order to support the member organizations, to focus on unique children's issues and to encourage advocacy on key concerns. An office exists in Indonesia for the Asia Pacific region and another in Belgium for Europe. Africa and Latin America regional programmes are in formation. IFCW and the Regional Forums conduct active programmes and produce a wide range of publications and studies.

The following are some of the forums, conferences and seminars sponsored by IFCW:

1995 WorldForum: San Jose, Costa Rica, The theme: "The Child As Priority on The World Agenda: What Will It Take?" The WorldForum was conducted in two languages.

The Executive Institute was held two days prior to the WorldForum on the theme: "The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: a tool for NGOs".

The Regional Forum was held for Europe in Rome, Italy, on the theme "The rights of the child in the wider Europe: local, national, European and international dimensions". Another seminar was held in Wales, United Kingdom, on the theme "The rights of the child — bilingual children in Europe".

The 1996 WorldForum Montreal, Canada, and co-sponsored by McGill University. The theme was: "Today's children, tomorrow's destiny". Stephen Lewis was one of the plenary speakers. The WorldForum was conducted in three languages.

The Executive Institute focused on organization-building through leadership development and planning. It was conducted by McGill University.

Regional Forum: The Asia-Pacific Forum met in Darwin, Australia, and focused on "Equality in opportunity" with 60 participants from 11 countries. In August, a two-day workshop was held on "Information networking in Asia-Pacific countries" on the use of the Internet. Another two-day workshop was held on "Increasing awareness on the impact of HIV/AIDS on the welfare of children and families". The European Forum met in Dublin, Ireland, in May on the theme: "Working transnationally in the interests of children". Mary Robinson, then President of Ireland, addressed the assembly.

The 1997 WorldForum was held in Faro, Portugal, in October with the theme: "Keeping children safe". The WorldForum was conducted in three languages. The President and the First Lady were in attendance; five cabinet ministers participated; and, four First Ladies of African nations were present. Fifteen countries from Africa were represented.

The Executive Institute was held the two days preceding the WorldForum with the theme: "Fit for the Millennium?"

Regional Forum: the Europe Forum was held in Helsinki in April on the theme: "The rights of the child in Europe: growing up in Europe — the right to integration".

The 1998 WorldForum — Theme "Justice for children" at Manila, Philippines, co-sponsored by the Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation and the Children and Youth Foundation of the Philippines. It focused on juvenile justice and had the participation of youth who had experienced the system from various countries.

1998 Regional Forum at Bath, United Kingdom, on "Europe's children — their fears and hopes". The purpose was to look at different situations of hope or conditions of risk. The conference saw the participation of children and young people as rapporteurs and speakers.

Publications include:

(1) Newsletters by IFCW and the European Forum for Child Welfare (EFCW);

(2) Reports of WorldForum either hard copy or on disks;

(3) Reports of regional conferences;

(4) Asia Pacific Forum for Child Welfare has produced the following documents:

(a) Impact of HIV/AIDS on Children and their Families, 1996;

(b) Family Strengthening, 1996;

(5) EFCW has produced the following in English and French:

(a) European Children's Rights, 1997;

(b) Chronology of the Legal Evolution of Children's Rights, 1997;

(c) Are children protected against violence in Europe? A comparative study of laws, policies and practices in Europe, 1998;

(d) Children who work in Europe, 1998.

Both regional forums, the Asia Pacific Forum for Child Welfare (APFCW) and EFCW maintain web sites on regional children's issues, events and other sources of information.

7. Institut de Coopération Europe-Asie-Amérique Latine (ICEAAL)

A. Reiteration of objectives

The Institut de Coopération Europe-Asie-Amérique Latine (ICEAAL) focuses on destitute populations in developing countries, particularly those defeated, marginalized or humiliated by globalization, without distinction as to nationality, religion, caste or race and with due respect for the nature, culture and traditions of "the other".

The organization is funded by donations from manufacturers' associations.

B. Participation and cooperation

In the field in Viet Nam, Ecuador, Chile, Peru and Brazil, ICEAAL has expanded its efforts to implement European Union aid projects and to disseminate United Nations principles. ICEAAL has also developed its own instant drinking water purification system, as well as an affordable house-building system for the poor with due regard for their dignity. With seven staff members always in the field and small delegations, the organization has managed to attend only a few United Nations events.

C. Other activities

ICEAAL has responded to the concerns of the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization by distributing the water purification system through the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). The system has prevented certain tragedies (deaths of children resulting from the consumption of river water

contaminated by mercury from gold mining activities). It has also helped to provide clean drinking water to persons previously unaware that clean water existed.

In **Viet Nam**, ICEAAL has signed a cooperation agreement with the Higher Education Development Organisation (HEDO), a local NGO targeted to minorities in the Son La and Lao Cay region (North East Viet Nam, on the China and Laos borders). The cooperation centres mainly on education (providing materials for primary schools) and health (basic health infrastructure). In the wake of the typhoons which ravaged the northern region in 1995, ICEAAL provided emergency aid by using European Commission services. Since 1998, ICEAAL has also been collaborating with the above-mentioned NGO in providing paediatric courses for young mothers.

In **Ecuador**, where it had periodically provided aid, ICEAAL has signed a direct cooperation agreement (published in the "Diario Oficial de la Republica del Ecuador") with Mr. José Ayala Lasso, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and the former High Commissioner for Refugees. Thanks to the instant drinking water purification facilities, it had been possible to address drinking water problems caused by the El Niño phenomenon. ICEAAL has also obtained the permission of the Quito town administration to share the premises of landmark buildings used by the United Nations Mission (assisting in the restoration of the heart of the capital) with a view to establishing its headquarters there. The activities of ICEAAL in Ecuador have been severely hampered and often thwarted by the intolerable and incredible corruption rampant in the country. ICEAAL has always refused to make allowances for such traditions.

In **Chile**, three programmes are now under way. In the south, in the Tenth Region (Maullin, Los Lagos), ICEAAL helped destitute fishermen living in horrendous conditions to form a cooperative. Thanks to seaweed exports made possible by ICEAAL, the cooperative succeeded in establishing a fund (managed with ICEAAL assistance) for purchasing equipment to render conditions less harsh and to lay the foundations for basic social infrastructure.

In the north, in the Fourth Region (La Serena), ICEAAL assisted people who lost their homes during the October 1996 earthquake but received virtually no assistance from the Government. The ICEAAL housing system enables them to benefit from decent housing as a result of a system of financing similar to that used by Bangladeshi women (microcredit). The system has also been introduced in a cooperative for abandoned women in Calama (Second Region) where some women have been living in roofless houses.

In **Peru**, the organization has been slow to activate its programme due to the scale of the financial assistance requested. In 1998, ICEAAL established the contacts which will this year enable it to overcome Peru's clean water and housing problems (namely in Río Rimac in Lima, Ayacucho).

In **Brazil**, the corruption does not always help in the execution of projects. In order to tackle that difficult problem, ICEAAL signed a cooperation agreement with the "Forum Nacional de Secretarios de Agricultura" which allows for open dialogue on all issues, as well as continual and direct collaboration with the local representatives of all international organizations. Periodically, ICEAAL grants financial assistance to a local NGO in Fortaleza, Crianas da Rua, which provides shelter to abandoned children already caught up in street crime.

In the above-mentioned countries, ICEAAL has submitted applications for NGO accreditation. The organization has already obtained NGO status in Viet Nam, Brazil and Venezuela (a new country for ICEAAL).

Publications

As explained above, ICEAAL has only a small staff at its disposal, both in Europe and in its delegations, since it has chosen to prioritize aid over salaries and operational costs. Since its people are always in the field, it cannot afford to issue publications regularly. It has, however, produced a 45-page booklet outlining United Nations and UNESCO principles, approximately 1,000 copies of which were distributed in Spanish and Portuguese in the above-mentioned countries (with the exception of Viet Nam, where the booklet was issued in English and French). Wherever possible, these principles were taught orally to the illiterate populations. All the organization's activities were publicized in the press and on local television.

Funding

Funding levels provided by Brazilian and Italian manufacturers' associations reached US$ 635,000 in Viet Nam, US$ 288,000 in Brazil (direct aid for local NGOs), US$ 275,729 in Ecuador, US$ 187,917 in Chile and US$ 53,550 in Peru. European members of ICEAAL are liable for the expenses incurred by their visits.

ICEAAL membership

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President of the Inter-American Development Bank
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Tran Van Thinh (France)
Former Ambassador of the European Commission to the United Nations Office at Geneva
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Mr. Rubens Recúpero (Brazil)
Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
Geneva

Mr. Fausto Cordovez Chiriboga (Ecuador)
Former Minister, Former Secretary General of the Latin American and Caribbean Pre-Investment Organization (OPALC)
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8. Special Olympics, Inc.[1]

Background information

As the largest organization in the world promoting acceptance through sport, Special Olympics, Inc. has a 32-year track record of demonstrated success in providing year-round sports training and competition opportunities for children and adults with mental retardation. Founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, Special Olympics, Inc. is incorporated in the District of Columbia as a not-for-profit corporation focused on international sports. Through regular sports training programmes, Special Olympics athletes enhance their athletic skills, improve their overall physical fitness and develop increased self-confidence and self-esteem. In fact, published research indicates that, for people with mental retardation, regular participation in Special Olympics sports training and competition activities yields all of these benefits and often leads to sustained improvement in overall physical fitness and emotional well-being.[2]

Special Olympics flourishes in 150 nations and in each of the 50 states of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands and American Samoa. One million people with mental retardation annually participate in Special Olympics training and competition programmes globally. One million volunteers and 250,000 coaches around the world support these efforts, training athletes in 22 Olympic-type sports and organizing more than 20,000 local, regional, national and international sporting events annually. This represents an increase of six new nations participating since the Special Olympics last report.

1995-1998 activities

1. The work undertaken by Special Olympics, Inc. during the period under review was in accordance with, and complements the World Programme of Action as set forth by the declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2856 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971. In compliance with this Declaration, Special Olympics, Inc. has increased the number of athletes participating by more than 200,000 individuals from 1995 to 1998.

2. The ninth Special Olympics World Games were held in New Haven, Connecticut, United States, from 1 to 9 July 1995. A total of 7,200 athletes with mental handicaps from 143 nations participated in 17 Olympic-like sports.

3. On 30 June 1995, Special Olympics and the United Nations Disabled Persons Unit, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, jointly organized a symposium entitled "Intellectual Disability: Programmes, Policies and Planning for the Future", which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Leading experts in the field of mental disability from various member nations as well as United Nations staff members addressed the symposium and provided a unique opportunity for researchers, policy makers,

[1] Formally Special Olympics International. The name has been changed in accordance with corporate by-laws and the laws of the District of Columbia, United States of America.

[2] Elisabeth Dykens, PhD and Donald Cohen M.D.; "Effects of Special Olympics International on Social Competence in Persons with Mental Retardation", *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, vol. 35, No. 2, February 1996.

caregivers and government officials to learn about the worldwide advances for people with mental disabilities.

4. The first Asia-Pacific Special Olympics Games were held in Shanghai, China from 3 to 9 November 1996 for 1,500 athletes from 17 nations.

5. On 18 July 1996, Special Olympics submitted a written endorsement of 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers at the request of the United Nations.

6. On 29 July 1996, Special Olympics submitted a written endorsement to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, supporting the inclusion of the World Indigenous Games during the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1995-2004). Special Olympics subsequently sent a delegation of athletes to the 1997 Indigenous Games in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, from 1 to 7 August 1997.

7. The sixth Special Olympics World Winter Games were held in Toronto and Collingwood, Canada, from 1 to 8 February 1997 for 1,780 athletes from 82 nations who competed in five winter sports.

8. A representative of Special Olympics attended the 13 February 1997 briefing on "United Nations General Assembly and NGOs" organized by the Department of Public Information.

9. A representative of Special Olympics attended the NGOs annual general meetings organized by the Department of Public Information in 1996, 1997 and 1998.

10. A representative of Special Olympics visited with the World Health Organization's Inter-agency Affairs Division in Geneva, Switzerland, to collaborate on the official terminology for people with cognitive delay and to assess its extent worldwide in March 1998.

11. A representative of Special Olympics attended a meeting at the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, for the purpose of organizing Special Olympics Peace Games in the Middle East and in the Balkans in January 1997 and February 1998.